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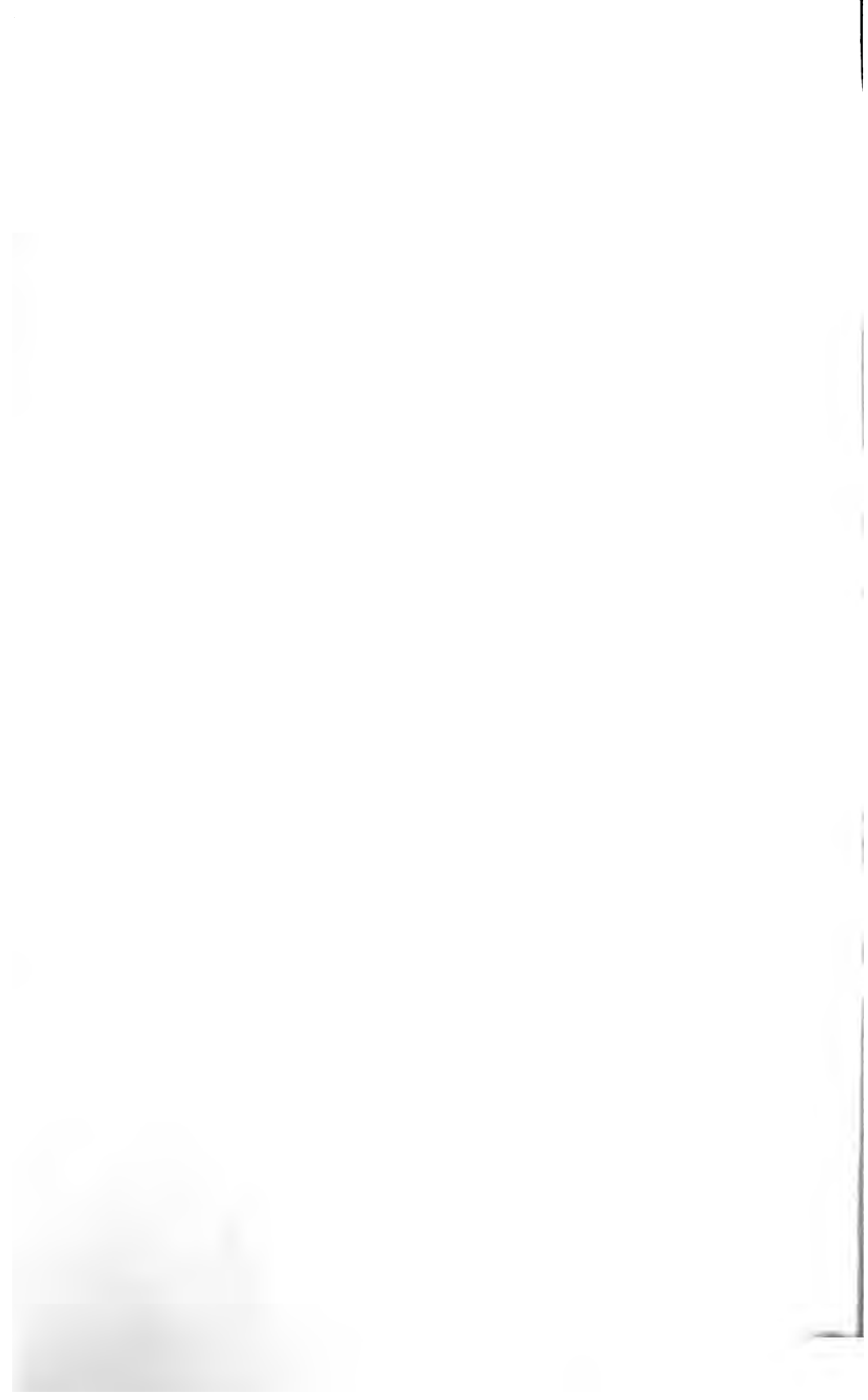
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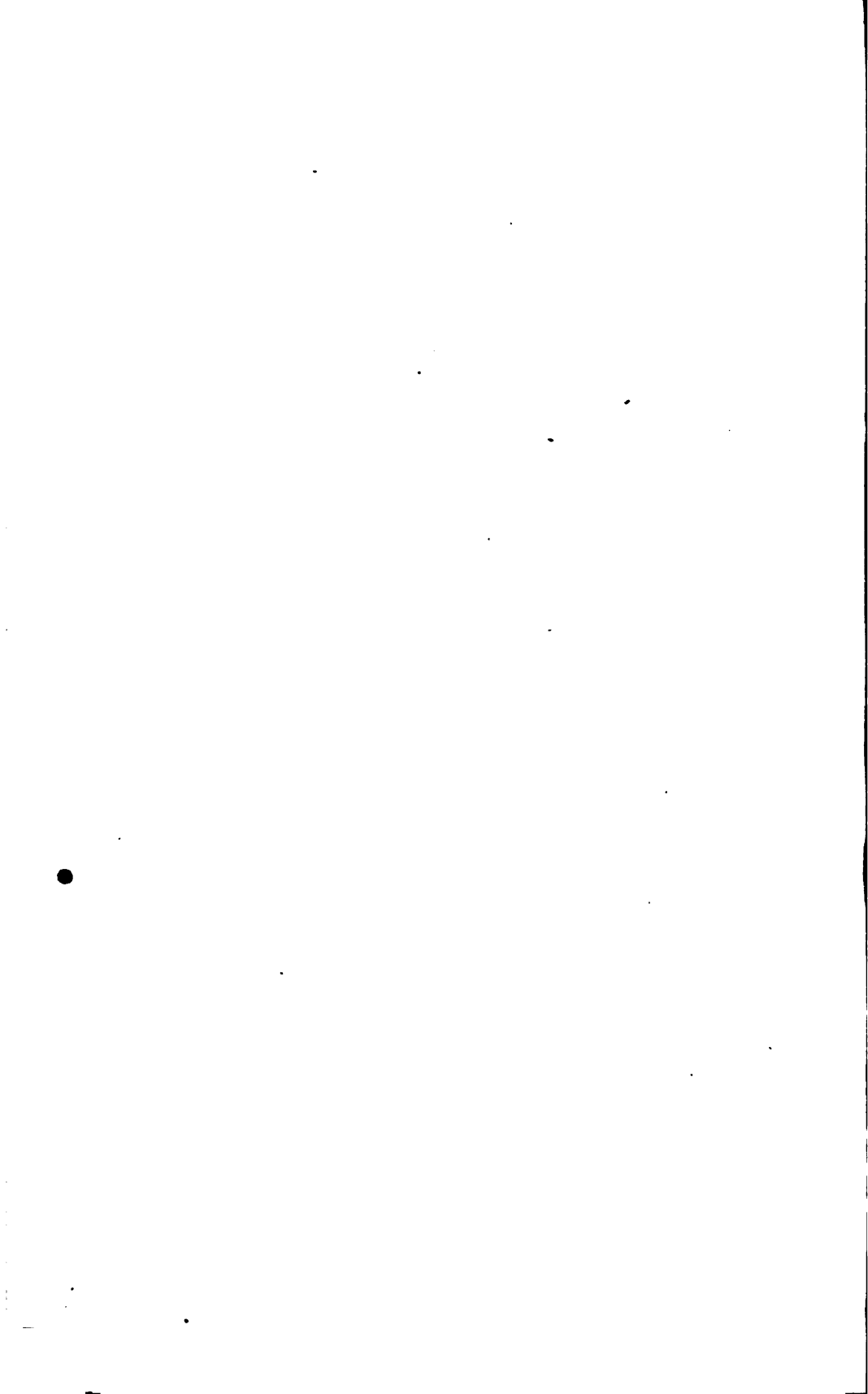
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COMPILED FOR THE FAMILY EXCLUSIVELY.

THE
Clarksons of New York.

A SKETCH.

"Celebrare Domestica Facta."

VOLUME I.

NEW YORK:
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1875.

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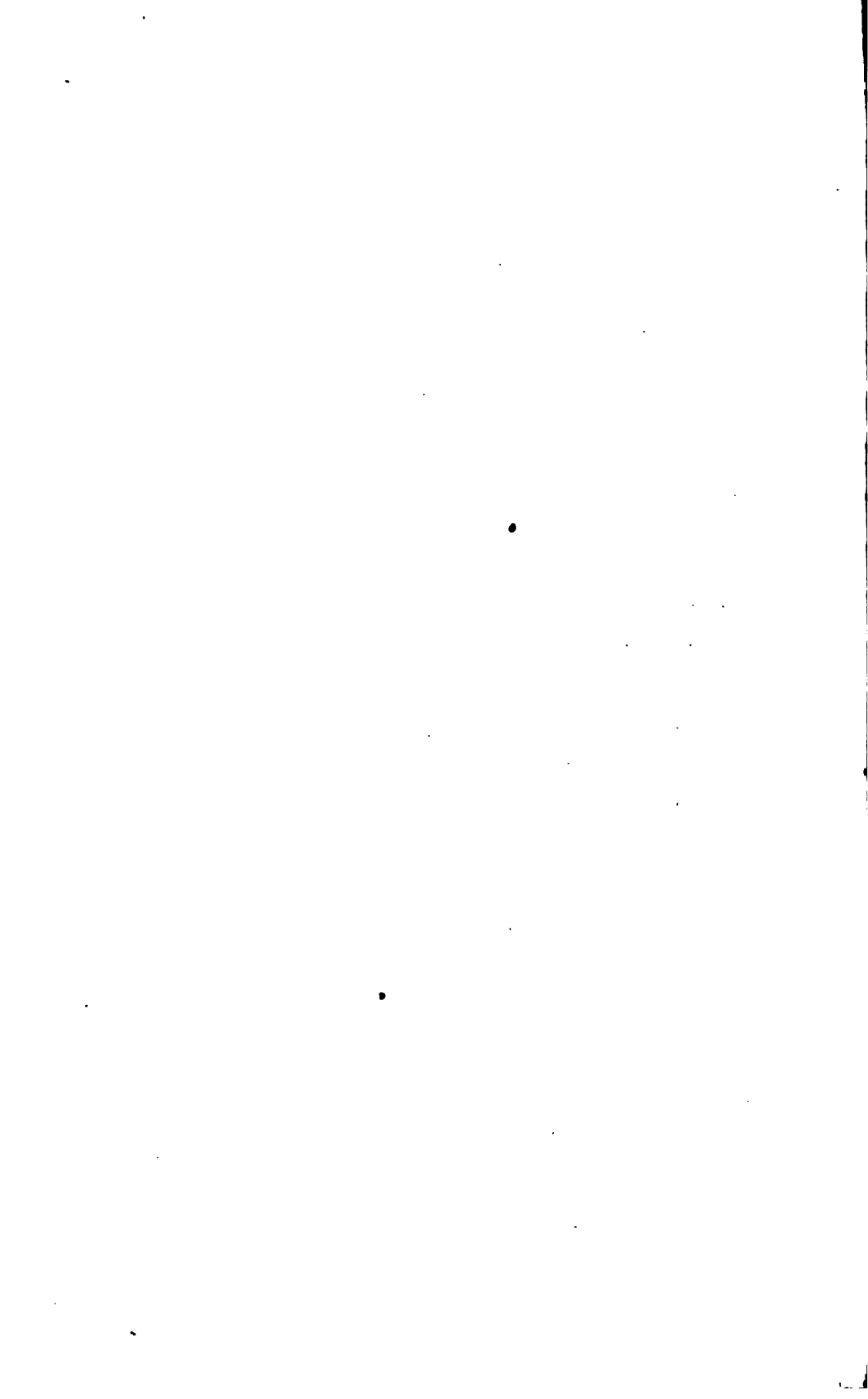
PREFACE.

It is well-known that the occurrences of yesterday become but the uncertain tradition of to-day when left unrecorded, and facts, once as familiar as household words, are forgotten in the great whirl of events. To rescue from any such contingency the little knowledge that has been obtained of the generations that have preceded us, and to preserve that knowledge for the benefit of the generations yet to come, has been the object of this sketch.

NEW YORK CITY, *July*, 1875.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE materials used in the following pages have been mainly derived from probate courts, parochial registers, official documents, and public libraries; few memorials of their more remote forefathers are to be found in the possession of the Clarksons at the present day.

The conflagration which occurred in New York city, in the autumn of 1776, during its occupation by the British, destroyed the family residence in Whitehall street, and, as it is believed, all its contents, including the papers, books, and portraits. Almost every memento of the family lineage perished at this time. The house was unoccupied, Mr. Clarkson being absent, temporarily, in New Jersey. The fire began in the evening, in the immediate vicinity of the building, and before morning the whole district was a sad scene of desolation.

The loss, by this accident, of the family archives, has surrounded with unusual difficulties every attempt to satisfy, from public records, those of their descendants who, to use the words of a quaint author, are "curiously listening after the memory of their ancestors."

The birthplace of the Clarksons, Bradford in Yorkshire, has few early registers and no parish books of a date antecedent to 1596, and most of the "ancient writings" of the town, whence much information might have been obtained, were lost when it was captured by the royalist forces during the civil wars. This loss was greatly deplored by the old chronicler, Thoresby.

It has been ascertained, however, from the Prerogative Court, at York, and from other sources, that the family was long established at Bradford. The name of Robert occurs in the subsidy roll for the year 1544, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, and William, some years later, was a Warden of the Parish Church.

A tradition is also extant which points to a common descent of this family and of one of the same name of Kirton and Willoughby, in the neighboring county of Nottingham. Upon the authority of Mr.

WILL, of Ragenhill.

county of Derby.

nty of Somerset.

nty of Leicester.

3. ELYZABETH.

Certified by

Thos H Clarkson

1. ELEANOR, wife to
WRIGHT, of Egman-
ton, county of Not-
tingham.

2. ALICE, wife to
LUKE, of

3. ANNE, wife to
HARRISON, a Coun-
cellor of Law.

179th

ELIZA, daughter of ROBERT WIL-
LIAMSON, of East Markham,
county of Nottingham, Esq.

2. JOHN CLARKSON, citizen
of London.

136.

1. ELIZABETH.
2. MARY.
3. FAYTH.
4. ANNE.
5. JUDITH.

Certified by
WILLIAM CLARKSON.

Courthope, of the College, Somerset Herald, we are told, that "from a note in one of our books, it would appear that this family was in some way connected with Yorkshire, though the connection be not shown," and, there is further confirmation of the tradition in the circumstance, that the coat armor in both cases was the same, namely, "Argent, on a bend engrailed sable three annulets or," that borne by Matthew Clarkson, a member of the Yorkshire family, who came to America towards the close of the seventeenth century, differing in no respect, except in the crest, from that of the family of Nottingham. The former carried for a crest, "a Griffin's head couped between two wings, ppr.;" the latter, "an Arm in armour, fessewise, holding a sword, from which flows a pennon."

The pedigree of the Clarksons, of Nottingham, which is on record at the college, commences about 1500 and comes down to about 1664. They were proprietors of large landed estates, and were long and favorably known in the county. On the stone floor of their old pew in the church, at Kirton, is still to be found this inscription: (The original is in Latin.)

HERE . LIE . THE . REMAINS . OF
WILLIAM . CLERKSON . GENTLEMAN
HE . WAS . NOT . ONLY
A . WORSHIPPER . OF . GOD . IN . CHRIST
BUT . HIS . LIFE . CONFORMED . THEREUNTO.
TOWARDS . HIS . COUNTRY
HE . WAS . A . PUBLIC . SERVANT . IN . HIS . GENERATION.
TOWARDS . HIS . NEIGHBORS
GENEROUS . AFFABLE . HOSPITABLE.
GREATLY . REGRETTED
HE . FELL . BENEATH . THE . DART . NOT . STING . OF . DEATH
ON . THE . 21ST . DAY . OF . JANUARY . 1684
AGED . 75
FULL . OF . DAYS . AND . LEAVING . MANY . CHILDREN.
JOHN . SON . AND . HEIR . OF . WILLIAM
AWAITING . THE . RESURRECTION
HAS . PLACED . THIS . STONE
THAT . IT . MAY . BE
TO . HIS . FATHER'S . ASHES . AN . HONOR
TO . HIMSELF . AND . TO . HIS . FRIENDS
AN . INCENTIVE . TO . MEMORY
AND . TO . POSTERITY . A . THING . SACRED.

D, YORKSHIRE.

ELLEN, married 1619. — THOMAS ENGLISH.

DAVID, born 1621-2; died 1686. — ELIZABETH HOLCROFT, born 1624. — HESTER, born 1623-4.

POX. — KATHARINE, born 1673; died 1757. — ROBERT.

PEYSTER, born 1695. — ALBERT TENNENT and Philadelphia. — AM HAZARD. — ANNA, born 1701; died 1779. Removed to Holland.

SACHEL WEST. — Rev. SAM. FINLEY.

MARY BOND.

MARY FLOWERS.

JEVINUS, born 1740; married 1763; died 1798. — MARY VAN HORNE.
 1. SAMUEL.
 2. DAVID.
 3. CHARLES — ELIZABETH VANDERBILT.
 4. KEMBLE.
 5. MARY.
 6. HENRIETTA — FREEMAN CLARKSON.
 7. CORNELIA.
 8. WILLIAM.



THE CLARKSONS OF NEW YORK.

SECTION I.

ROBERT CLARKESON.

THE Clarkson of New York are descended from a Yorkshire family, which, from very early times, was settled at Bradford, in the West-Riding.

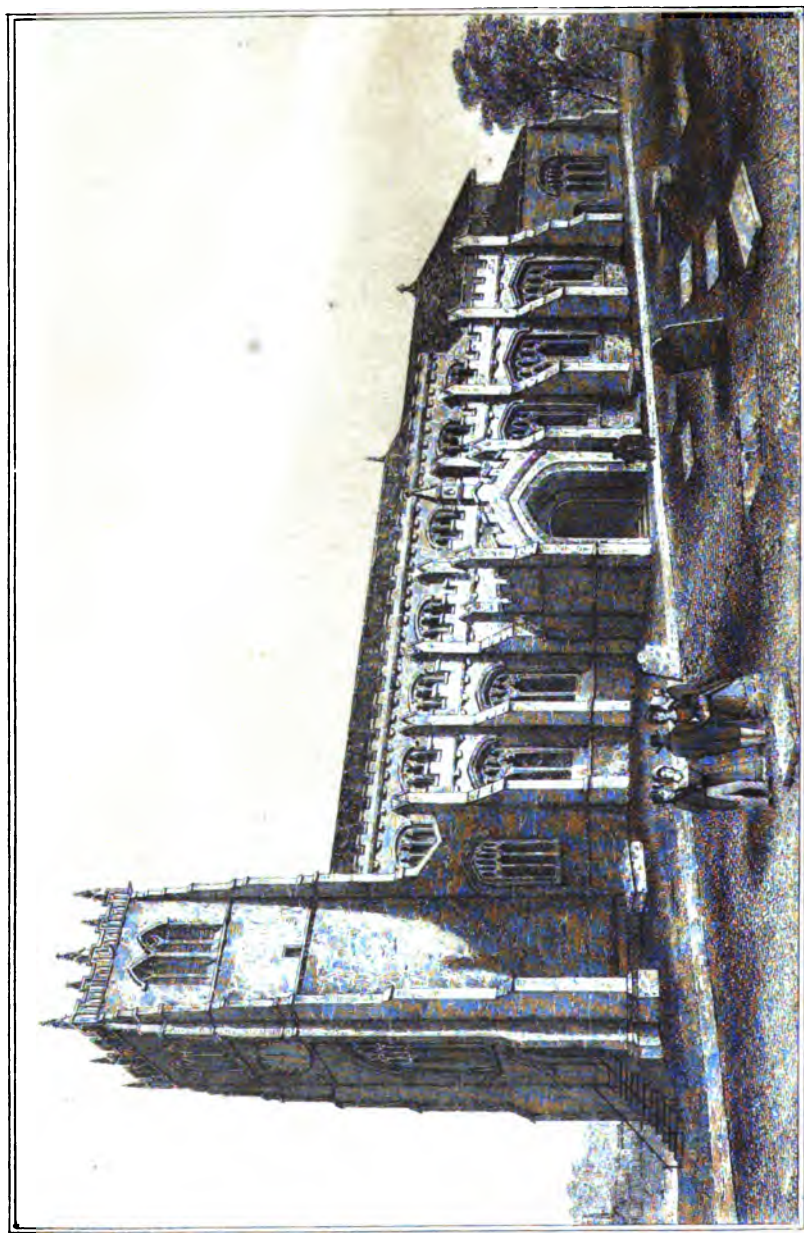
Very little is known of their history before the period of the Stuarts, but at the accession of James I. the Clarksons were in the enjoyment of wealth and "possessed of that moral worth and social influence which caused them to be ranked among the leading inhabitants of the town."

"In former days," says a local historian, "Bradford possessed many desirable qualities as a residence. Its neighborhood was diversified and picturesque,

and full of charming scenery. Its inhabitants were mostly well-to-do, respectable people, farming their own land and carrying on quietly, but lucratively, the worsted manufacture at their own homes. The state of agriculture was, indeed, very primitive, but some good husbandry prevailed. Almost wholly engrossed with these pursuits its men of wealth sought no higher distinction, and were content to be accounted first-class yeomen. Thus their industry and unceasing attention to business enabled them, in the words of the facetious Fuller, 'to proceed gentlemen, gaining estates for themselves and worship to their estates.'"

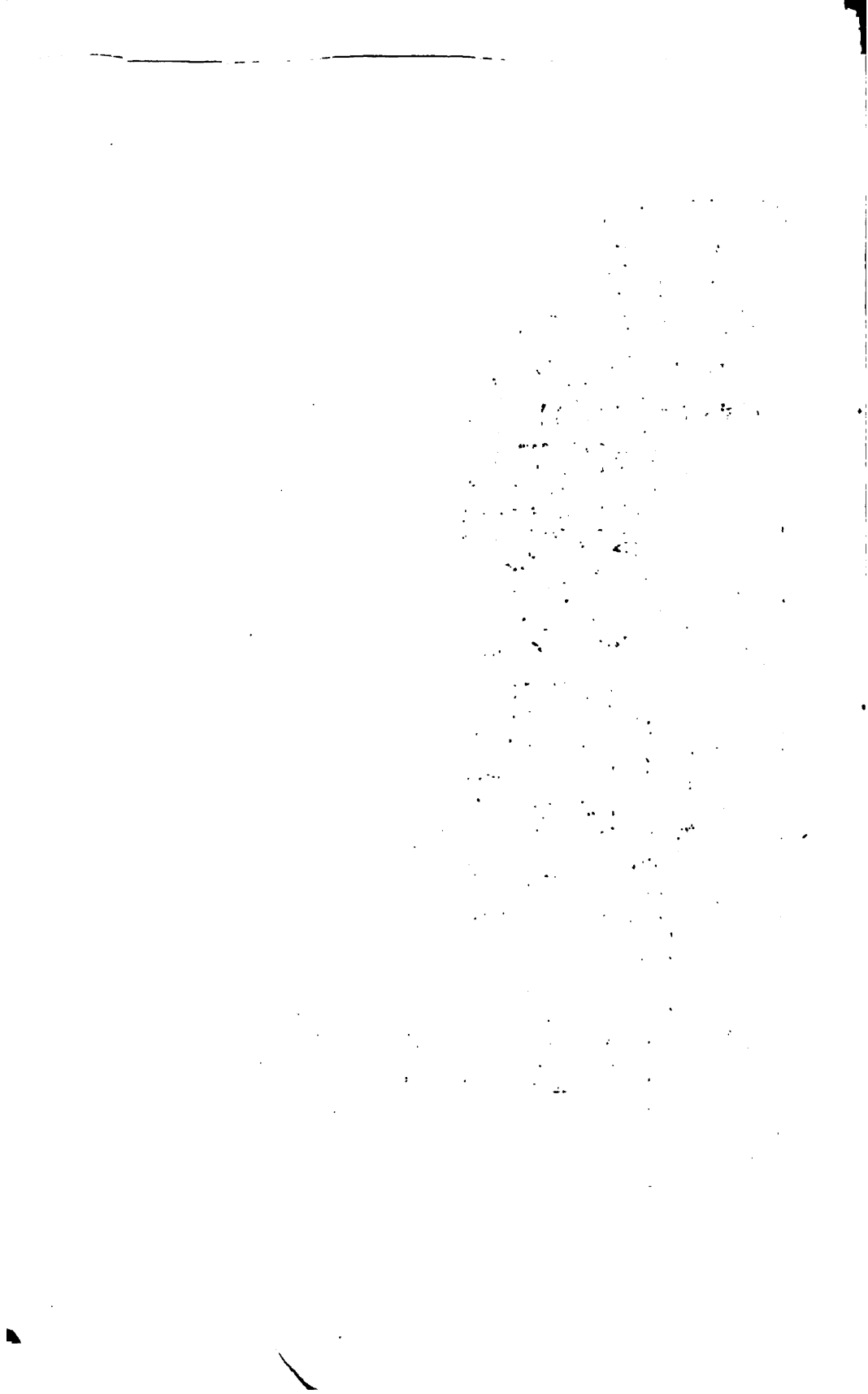
Approaching from the east, the road descended the hill, leaving Bowling-Hall on the left, and entered the town at Goodman's End. The main streets, called Ivegate and Westgate, running east and west, were a continuation of Goodman's End. They were separated by the market-place, from which Kirkgate led to the old parish church, with its great solid square tower, rising ninety feet high. A street called afterwards Dead-lane, from the heaps of slain, connected Goodman's End with Kirkgate near the church; Barker End was directly in the rear of Dead-lane.





THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.

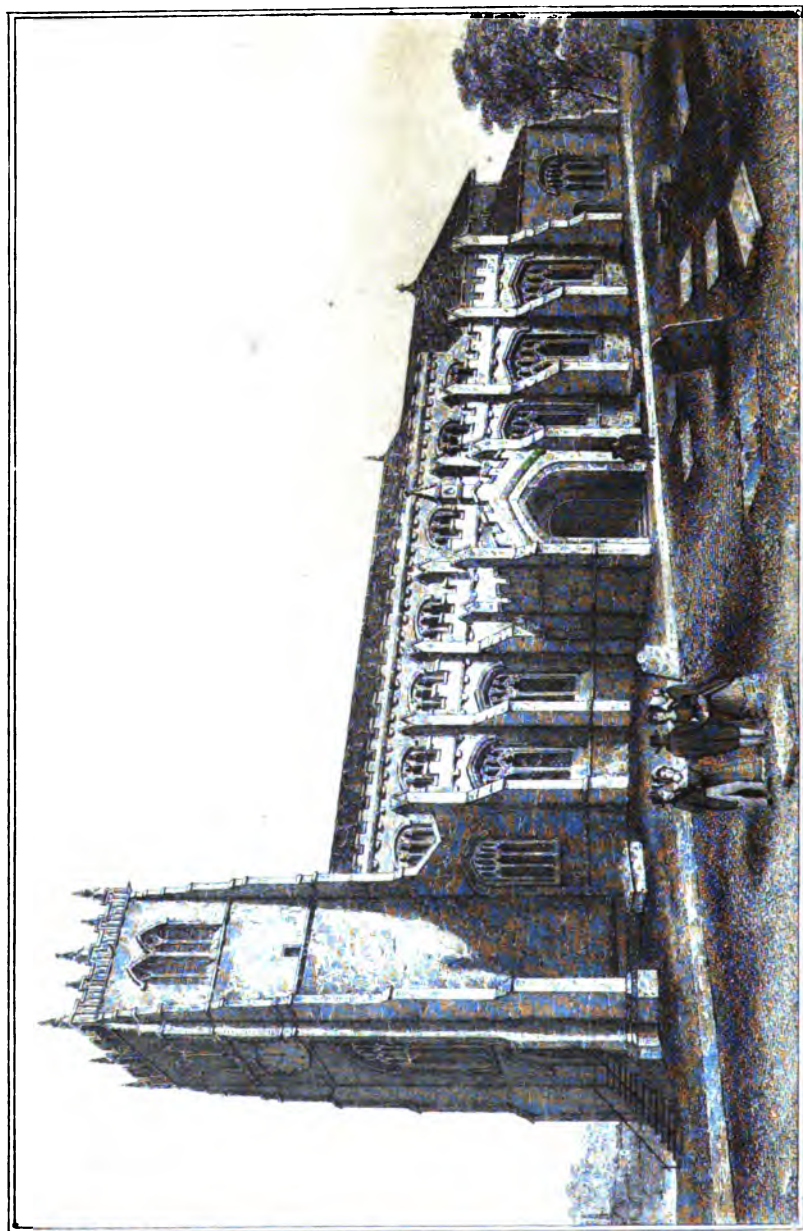
At the same time, the Government of the United States
has been informed that the Government of the United States
has been informed that the Government of the United States



Before the Civil Wars Bradford had already attained a high state of prosperity. Clarendon then called it "a rich and populous town," and when it passed from the Crown in the reign of Charles I., its appearance had altogether changed from what it had been fifty years before. Then the houses were mostly of one story; now they consisted of the substantial and costly residences, many of which still remain in some parts of Ivegate and Westgate.

The old parish church, dedicated to St. Peter, was erected in the time of Henry VI. It stands to-day in the midst of a busy population, and beneath its well-worn pavements rests the congregated dust of many generations. Our dead, and the dead of strangers, those of the old faith and the Protestant, the Churchman and the Dissenter, here repose together. It is the holy and beautiful temple where our fathers worshipped. For three centuries the grand old service with its glorious doxologies has resounded within these walls; and here, very probably on the same spot, for eight centuries the offices of religion have been celebrated.

We begin our sketch with the family group found at Bradford on the 9th of September, 1610. The



ST. JAMES' CHURCH, LONDON.

Before the Civil War, Bradford had a very different high school curriculum. Depending on the school, it was "old English" or "old French," and when it passed from the College to the town of Amesbury, its content included a good deal of Latin, which had a reputation for being "dead." Then the course was made of one story; now they consisted of the subjects of our costly researches, many of which still reflect on some pages of *Lygonia* and *Wesley*.

The old parish church, called St. Peter, was erected in the time of Henry VI. It stands to-day in the midst of a busy population, and here, in its well-worn pews and its lofty and aged altar, of every generation. Our doctors, our deacons, strangers, those of the old faith and the new, and the Churchman and the Dissenter, have come together. It is the place of the triumph of our common faith, working for the good of all, and the good of all serving with its lights, its deacons, its presbytery, within the walls, and its very personality in the same spirit, and it endures the effort of religion have been the same.

We begin our story with a family going from Bradford on the 9th of September, 1919. The

Every article of luxury that the house could boast was crowded into this chamber, and the air was often redolent with the fumes of juniper. Below was the parlor. This was the place of family meeting and entertainment. Here was placed the "table," as we see in the will, with its "formes" or seats. There were seldom more than two chairs in an apartment; one of these was reserved for the master of the house, the other for his principal guest. The rest of the seats were "formes" or benches. The table was rude and devoid of ornament, but polished with oaten meal until it glistened like ivory. It was not unworthy to bear the generous cheer with which it was daily loaded, and of which guest and casual visitor were alike heartily invited to partake. The "yron-range," piled high with blazing coal, shed a glow of comfort over the room, and shone brightly on the silver and new garnish of London pewter that adorned the "cup-borde." The happiest reminiscences of our forefathers were associated with those old firesides. It was there they recited the marvels of ancient story, read the last book purchased from the strolling pedlar, or taught scraps of precious truth borrowed from the proverbial wisdom of the age.

Robert Clarkeson was a yeoman, and like very many of that influential body of freeholders, he was a Puritan. The position assumed by the Puritans was that the Church of England required further reformation, that it had not separated itself enough from Romanism, and that in their opinion it was desirable to abandon everything that could claim no other authority than tradition, and follow as far as possible only the *pure* word of God. The Rev. Caleb Kemp had long and eloquently defended this doctrine from the pulpit of St. Peters.

Robert and Agnes had seven children, four sons and three daughters. In the parish register we find these entries of their baptism :

Robert: June 7, 1612.

William: April 10, 1614.

Mary: February 18, 1615.

Robert: February 15, 1617.

Sara: December 5, 1619.

David: March 3, 1621.

Hester: March 24, 1623.

Robert, the eldest, and Sara, died in infancy, and were buried at the parish church; Robert, on the 30th of September, 1614, and Sara on the 22d of

July, 1621. The other children survived their parents.

In 1615, Clarkeson was made Warden of St. Peters. The Rev. Caleb Kemp, the zealous Puritan preacher and Vicar of the Parish, had died but a short time before, and Richard Lister, his successor, had already been followed by the then present incumbent, John O'Kell, who occupied the pulpit for twenty-four years.

Mrs. Clarkeson died in April, 1628, and on the eighteenth of the same month was buried at St. Peters. The interment was made within the church, a privilege at that time accorded only to persons of rank.

On the 4th of October, 1629, nearly a year and a-half after the death of his first wife, Mr. Clarkeson married Hester, widow of Ezekiel Tailer. There were no children by the second marriage.

It is a noticeable fact, says Mr. Holroyd, the able antiquary of Yorkshire, that in the parish books the earlier and later marriages of Clarkeson are recorded as "*per licentia*." Marriages "by license," he adds, were very unusual at Bradford, in former times, and never take place there even at the present day, except among the highest gentry.

There is only one other incident which remains to be noticed, as it is the only public office with which we find Robert's name associated. The Manor of Bradford had been granted to the city of London by the king, in payment of a debt, and was now transferred to Clarkeson in company with the Vicar and others for the purposes of sale. In the execution of this trust he was engaged during the remaining two years of his life.

A few days before his death, while "lying in the parlor of his house sicke in bodie," he made his will. In this instrument occur the following words :

"I give and commend my soule into the hands of Almighty God, my Creator, assuridlie trustinge and faithfullie believinge to have full and free remission of all my sinnes by the precious death and blood-sheddinge of my Saviour and Redeemer, Jesus Christ, and by him to have life everlastinge in the celestial Jerusalem amongst the blessed saints of God; and I committ my bodie to the earth from whence it came, to bee buried in the parish church or churchyard of Bradford."

Mr. Clarkeson's death occurred on the 10th of March, 1631-32, and on the thirteenth he was buried at St. Peters.

It is not probable that the widow and five children who survived, continued to reside for any length of time in the Fairgap. The troubles which beset Bradford, subsequent to 1642, drove every one out of town who had the means to go, and Hester probably removed to the quiet city of York, where her will was dated in 1648.

We have not been able to ascertain any facts in regard to the later years of Robert's mother. His brother Tristram and his sisters all married and had issue, but nothing is known of their descendants.

Elizabeth, married Samuel Boothe, January 24, 1601.

Ellen, married Thomas English, February 28, 1619.

Tristram, married Susan Wilson, September 21, 1629.

Mr. Clarkeson had large estates not only at Bradford, but at Idle, at Pudsey and at Manningham. He mentions no less than nine messuages or houses and thirty-two closes or fields, each of which has its own peculiar designation; also a number of other closes with no distinctive names.

To the four younger of his children he devises the

whole of this property. His widow and his eldest son William do not participate in the division.

Mary, the elder daughter, received two houses, eight closes of land specified by name and others not thus designated, principally at Idle.

Robert, the second son, received a house in the Fairgap at Bradford, eleven designated closes of land, some of which were at Manningham, and the unexpired lease of the house adjoining the one in which his father resided at the time of his death and which his widow was to occupy until Robert came of age.

David, the third son, received a house and nine closes of land, specified by name, principally at Idle.

Ester, the younger daughter, received four houses and five closes of land designated and other closes, not thus designated, at Pudsey and Idle.

To Hester, or Ester, whom he calls "now my wife," Mr. Clarkeson made no bequests, as we have seen, out of his realty, but he provided that she might occupy the residence which his son Robert inherits; and he leaves to her of the personal estate, "such part or portion, according to the course of the lawes of this realm and custome in the Province of Yorke." He also gives to her the rest of the plate

after leaving a dozen silver spoons and one or more silver bowls to each of his daughters and a gilt silver "cann" to Mary.

Mr. Clarkeson bequeathed a small annuity to his mother and to his brother Tristram, besides other legacies, "twentie pounds." The annuity to his mother was to be paid by his son David at "the feastes of Pentecost and Sainte Martin, the Bishop, in winter." His sister, Elizabeth Boothe, gets a residence in Hindercliff, in Barker End, and her son Robert, living in London, twenty shillings to buy him a gold ring. Another sister, Ellen English, receives forty shillings, and to her two sons are left five pounds. Besides these, there are several small legacies to friends.

His widow and Josiah Cook are appointed executrix and executor of the will, and to the former he leaves the government and tuition of his children.

As a matter which may possess some interest, an extract of the Inquisition-post-mortem is here inserted, which was taken at Tadcaster, York, and bears date, 8th of King Charles, April 23, 1632. The original is in Latin :

"And the jurors upon their oaths say, that the said Robert Clarkeson died the tenth day of March

last, before the taking of the Inquisition, and that William Clarkeson is son and next heir of the said Robert Clarkeson, deceased, and was of the age at the death of the said Robert Clarkeson, seventeen years, eleven months, and twenty-five days, and that the said Mary Clarkeson: Robert Clarkeson (son), David Clarkeson and Ester Clarkeson, the younger children of the said Robert Clarkeson, deceased, at the time of taking this inventory are surviving and living at Bradford aforesaid," etc.

Of the two older children, William and Mary, we shall now furnish brief notices, and in another section shall resume the sketch of the family in the direct line of descent, with some account of the youngest son, David Clarkson.

WILLIAM CLARKSON.

WILLIAM CLARKSON, was the son and next heir of Robert Clarkeson. He was born March 13, 1613-14, and was consequently at the time of his father's death a lad of nearly eighteen. As no provision was made for him in the will he was doubtless to inherit property by entail, or else he had been

provided for by some wealthy relative. Nothing is positively known of his early training, but it is not unlikely that he and his two younger brothers, Robert and David, received the elementary part of their education at the Bradford grammar school, which was already notable as a place of learning. From this school the brothers seem to have separated in their subsequent careers, and we do not hear of Robert again.

Whether the advantages attending a university course, which were some years later enjoyed by his brother David, ever tempted William away from the old home in the Fairgap, has not been ascertained. But, from his later preferment in the church and from entries which occur in the journals of the Lords and Commons, in which he is designated as Master of Arts, we are inclined to think that he must have pursued a curriculum of studies, either at Oxford or Cambridge, as a preparation for his future profession. We now lose sight of him until the autumn of the year 1644. He was at this time a little over thirty years of age, and was acting as chaplain to Ferdinando, Lord Fairfax. In the same year the parish of Kirklington, in the north-riding of the county of York, having become vacant by the death

of Mr. Dagget, Clarkson was nominated for the place upon the recommendation of Lord Fairfax.

An ordinance to secure Mr. Clarkson's appointment was introduced into the House of Lords, on the 2d of October, and being agreed to, it was ordered to be sent to the Commons for their concurrence. The Commons having received and read the ordinance, directed Mr. Clarkson "to repair to the Assembly of Divines and bring from them to this House a certificate of his abilities and fitness for the place." The House "then concurred with the Lords in the appointment of Mr. Clarkson to the parish of Kirklington." The ordinance was presented to the Lords on the 2d of October; it was received by the Commons on the same day, and concurred in by that body on the 12th, and the commission bears the date of the 14th of the same month.

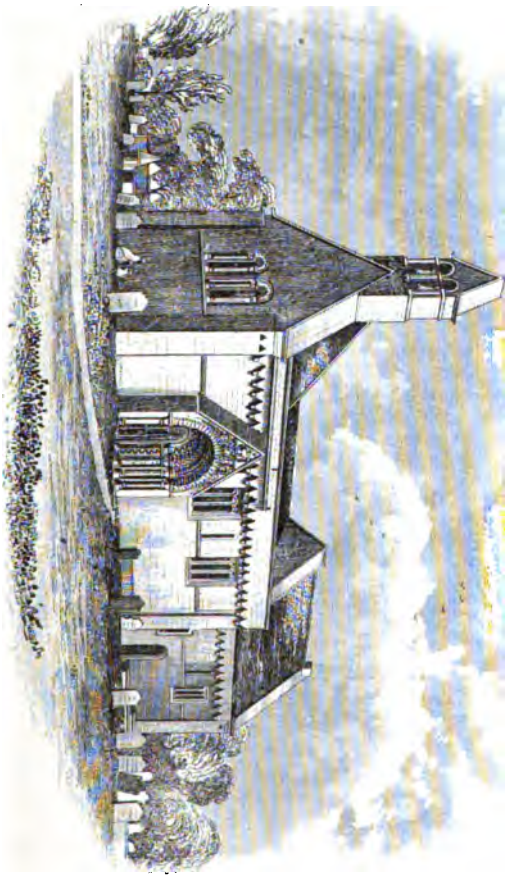
It does not appear whether he ever succeeded to this incumbency, but if he did, he could not have retained it very long, for in the following year, 1645, we find him installed as the Vicar of Adel. As he owed his first preferment to Lord Fairfax, while acting as his private chaplain, so it was through his son-in-law, Mr. Henry Arthington, of Arthington, the patron of the living, that Mr. Clarkson was pre-

the church is second benedict, the church at Andover is an interesting fact, as showing the interest of the young Jackson in a man so distinguished as Lord Raleigh.

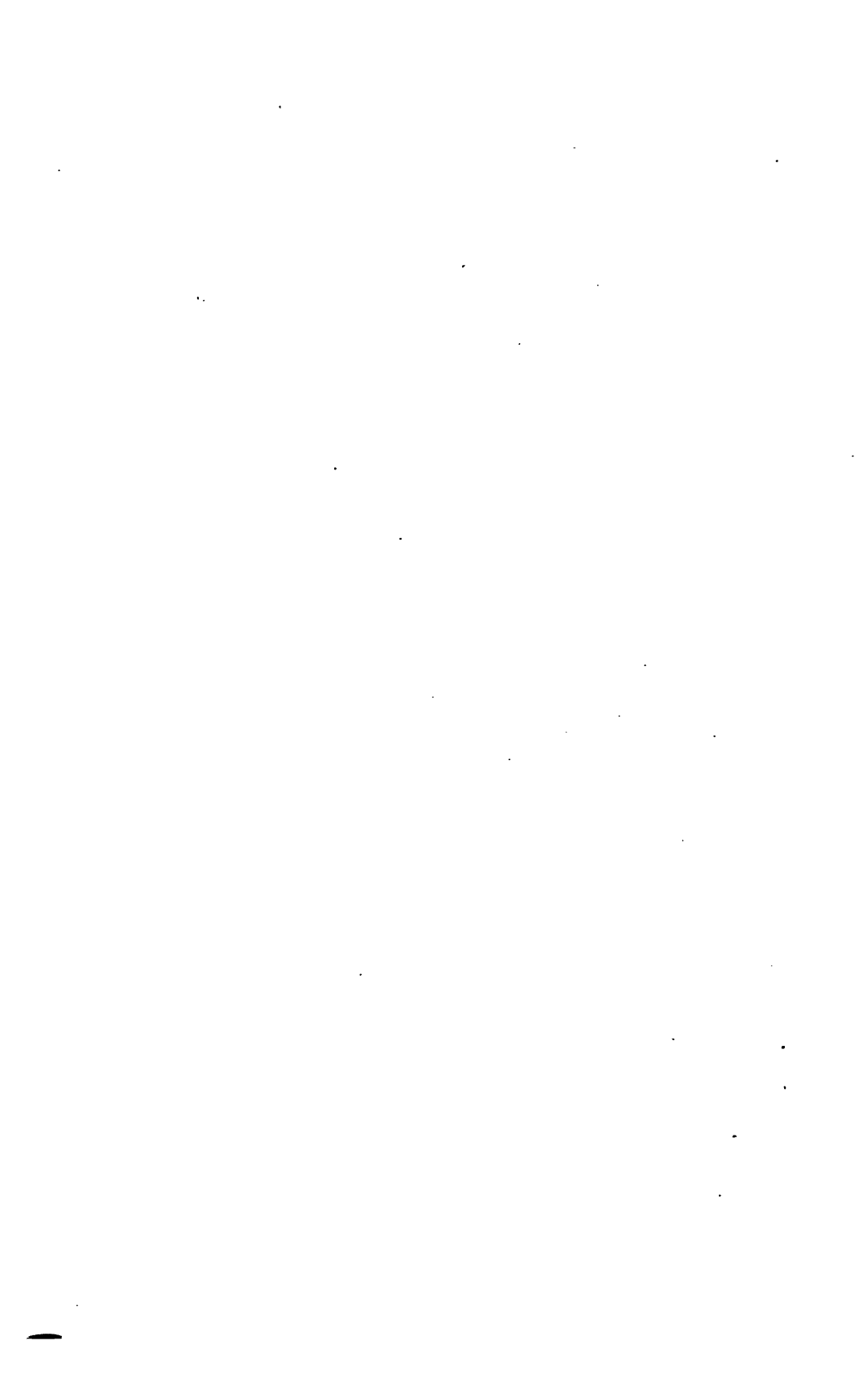
At the time William Jackson was now settled in a small congregation, about five miles north of the city, in the North Woods the distance from the city to the church. The country in the vicinity of the church is broken into hills and dales, and is a very rich wooded, though there are few fields. The church is a "Forest of Linnæa." The name of the church is "Woodhouse Moore," which is a corruption of "Woodhouse Moore," the name of the village, from which it is a few miles to the city.

The church is a perfect relic of the old. It is probably the first church in the city, and was dedicated to St. John the Baptist. The building is of the simple form of some of the churches of the Norman period, but, instead of being a simple structure, as in the case of the churches of the Norman period, it is a very large and elaborate structure, and is a very fine specimen of the architecture of the period.

The features of this ancient building are the tower and the church, which are both very elaborate. The tower is a very fine specimen of the architecture of the period, and is a very fine specimen of the architecture of the period.



.....ADEL CHURCH.....
Illustrated by J. Johnson
Published by J. Johnson.



sculpture. The porch contains a series of figures intended to represent the vision of St. John in the Island of Patmos, as described in the Revelation. At the apex of the gable is the Agnus Dei crowned with a nimbus, and on either side of the sacred Lamb are figures of the sun and moon, such as are seen in early rood crosses, as witnesses of the Crucifixion. In the centre, immediately below the Lamb, is the type of the first person of the Holy Trinity, having on his right the symbolic Angel, the Evangel of St. Matthew, and on the left, the Eagle, the Evangel of St. John. On the right of the Angel is the emblematic Bull of St. Luke, and opposite is the Lion of St. Mark. Towards the base of the gable, on each side of the spandrel, formed by the circular top of the arch, are what appear to be the symbolic Lily of the Virgin and a bundle of torches, the latter perhaps typical of the seven churches of Asia—the seven golden candlesticks. No less curious is the door handle. It is carved in iron, and is in excellent preservation. It represents the head of the enemy of mankind, horned, with fierce goggle eyes, and with a bat-like aspect, holding between the huge fangs which flank his jaws the head of a sinner,

who, having died excommunicate or impenitent, without receiving the offices of the Church, is appropriately placed with his tormentor on the wrong side of the door.

Such are some of the peculiarities of this very ancient house of worship. Mr. Roberts, of the Archæological Society, considers its porch as the most beautiful he has ever seen, and the structure, in its whole design, is said to be excelled by none of its kind in England.

In this quiet and secluded spot, in the exercise of his ministry, Mr. Clarkson passed the remainder of his life. For fourteen years he was Vicar of Adel.

His death occurred in April, 1660, before he had attained his 47th year, and he was buried on the 28th of the same month in the grounds adjoining the old church.

He was twice married. His first wife was Elizabeth, a daughter of Thomas Sharp, of Little Horton, and sister of John Sharp, the Parliamentarian. Elizabeth died on the 6th of May, 1650, without issue.

His second marriage was with Frances, a daughter of Mr. Maud, of Bierly. By this later marriage Mr.

Clarkson left three children—Sarah, Martha and Hannah.

Frances survived her husband, and there being no will, was appointed, with Major Maud, of Bierly, probably a brother, to administer the estate.

The following inventory affords a view of the household economy of a well-to-do Vicar in the middle of the seventeenth century:

Extracted from the Registry of the Consistory Court of York.

An Inbentare of all and singular the goods and chattels of William Clarkson, Clark, late Parson and proprietor of the Rectory of Adle, in the Countie of Yorke, deceased, taken the 14th day of May, 1660, by William Maud, Joseph Watkinson, Maior Maud & John Sharp, as followeth:

	£	s	d
Imprimis his purse & apparell - -	8	6	8
Item in ready money - - -	101	0	0
Ite in plate - - - - -	3	16	0
Ite one bed and the furniture - -	8	0	0
Ite a trindle bed and bedding - -	1	0	0
Ite a Little table and carpett with six } stooles - - - - - }	0	15	8

	£	s	d
Ite another little table - - -	0	3	0
Ite 5 chayres cov'ed w th cloth - -	0	10	0
Ite 3 buffetts covered with sett worke } and a couch Chayre - - - }	0	9	0
Ite a close stoole & a pan to it -	0	8	0
Ite a little Chist & a spice cubard -	0	5	0
Ite an Iron Range - - -	0	2	0
In the Little plor			
Ite two servants beds & bedinge -	1	15	0
In the Hall			
Ite a long table & six buffetts - -	1	6	8
Ite a little table & 3 sield chayres -	0	15	0
Ite two throwne chayres - -	0	2	0
Ite a Livery Cubard & furniture - -	1	13	4
Ite 15 quishins & two carpetts -	1	3	4
Ite a Clock - - - - -	0	15	0
Ite an Iron Range a fire Shovell a paire } of tongs a fire potter and a paire of } Briggs - - - - - }	0	12	0
Ite a Birding peece & a pistoll - -			
In the Kitchen			
Ite a Brass mortar and a pestell -	0	5	0
Ite two paire of Racks with other Iron } utensills - - - - - }	1	0	0
Ite 3 brass potts - - - -	1	15	0

	£	s	d
Ite 4 pans - - - - -	1	6	8
Ite two Skilletts two brass Saddles and a brass Skymer - - - - }	0	3	4
Ite In y ^e Buttry a table and an Old Chest - - - - - }	0	10	0
Ite a safe - - - - -	0	10	0
Ite a pewther 112 pounds - - -	5	10	0
Ite a warming pan and two old brass Candlesticks - - - - }	0	6	8
Ite a Masker and 5 great Barrells -	1	0	0
Ite 3 tubs and 5 little Barrells -	0	13	4
Ite a glass Case and glasses - - -	0	3	0
In the Milk House			
Ite a salting sfatt - - - - -	0	6	8
Ite two salting kitts a stand 3 skeeles and other wood vessell shelves and a trestle - - - - - }	0	15	0
Ite certaine stone potts and other husle- ment - - - - - }	0	1	6
In the great Chamber			
Ite 3 Chayres cov'ed with sett worke -	1	10	0
Ite a little table & a carpet - - -	0	8	0
Ite 6 stooles cov'ed with cloth - -	0	13	4
Ite 3 chayres cov'ed with red cloth -	0	7	6
Ite 10 sett quishings bottomed - -	0	15	0
Ite an Iron Range fire shovle & tongs	0	5	0

	£	s	d
Ite two paire of Lin sheets and 4 } paire of Lin pillow beares - }	1	12	8
Ite 6 diap napkins & a diap table cloath	0	8	0
Ite two dozen and a halfe of course } napkins and two table cloths - }	1	0	0
Ite 5 paire of course sheets - -	1	1	0
Ite in Mrs. Carter's Chamber			
Ite a stand bed & furniture and a little } bed - - - - - }	3	13	4
Ite a chayre and a quishinge - -	0	1	6
Ite in the Kitchen Chamber			
Ite two beds with their beddinge - -	1	6	8
Ite 3 Chests - - - - -	1	0	0
Ite a sadle and bridle - - -	0	6	8
Ite in the new Chamber			
Ite one bed & beddinge with two boul- } sters and pillowes - - - }	4	5	0
Ite two trunks - - - - -	0	8	0
Ite a Little table and desks - -	0	10	0
Ite a Couch chayre cov'ed with red cloth	0	6	8
Ite an Iron Range - - - -	0	2	0
Ite in the Studdy, the Library - -	30	0	0
Ite in the peate house, a Little bed -	0	3	0
Ite 3 Axletrees agang of wayne felks a } plow beame and other old wood }	0	12	0

	£	s	d
Ite in the Garner in Rye and Massilgin	3	0	0
Ite in Malt - - - - -	1	10	0
Ite in Barley 3 Quarters - -	3	0	0
Ite in the hay Barne			
Ite two pack saddles w th their furniture	0	10	0
Ite furniture for draught horses - -	0	3	4
Ite forkes shoules and spades - -	0	2	0
Ite a paire of panyers & 9 soales -	0	3	0
In the Kirk barne			
Ite in Barley thresht & untresht -	3	0	0
Ite in untresht oates - - - -	3	10	0
Ite in wheat untresht - - -	3	0	0
Ite a wayne head yoake & other yoakes & oxe bowes 3 teames 3 boults & shackles - - - - }	0	15	0
Ite corne Riddles & Recinge sive -	0	1	4
Ite six corne sacks - - - -	0	6	0
Ite 3 Ladders - - - -	0	2	0
In the wayne house			
Ite a Corne wayne with new iron bound wheeles - - - - }	3	6	8
Ite a wayne Coupe & Iron boun wheeles	1	6	8
Ite two old Carts - - - -	1	0	0
Ite two stand hecques - - -	0	3	0
Ite in the tyth barne			

	£	s	d
Ite an Oxe harrow & 2 horse harrowes-	0	3	4
Ite two plowes and Irons for one -	0	13	4

In the hen house

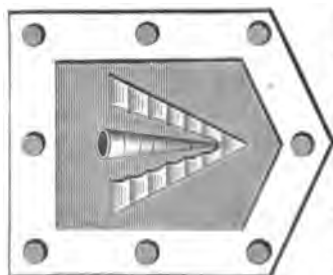
Ite an old Coope & certayne geese and } pullen - - - - - }	0	8	0
Ite a dunghill - - - - -	2	10	0
Ite in the ground 6 ewes & 6 lambs -	1	16	0
Ite 13 Couples more - - - - -	2	12	0
Ite 21 sheepe - - - - -	3	10	0
Ite two Naggs and a Mare - - -	9	0	0
Ite 3 Cows & a yeareing Calfe -	10	0	0
Ite 3 hoggs - - - - -	1	13	0
Ite some old timber - - - - -	0	6	0
Ite 4 dayes worke of Barley sowne -	4	0	0
Ite 7 daye's worke of otes & pease sowne	7	0	0
Ite the revsion of a Lease to spend & } certaine corne upon that ground - }	20	10	0
Ite a Cubord - - - - -	0	18	0

Debts oweing upon specialty

Imp ^{rs} Jerimy Welfett - - -	50	0	0
Ite Marmaduke Warwick - - -	20	0	0
Ite John Wood - - - - -	20	0	0
Ite Mr. Rawden - - - - -	15	0	0
Ite Joseph Vickars - - - - -	10	0	0

	£	s	d
Debts without specialty			
Ite Richard Nicholson - - -	4	0	0
Ite in arreares of Lords Rent collected } at Idle - - - - - }	5	4	10
Ite in arreares of Easter dues collected } in the pish of Adle - - }	2	10	0
Ite collected more Lords Rents at Idle -	3	12	4
Debts outward			
Imp ^{re} to Mr. Francis Wood - -	2	10	0
Item to Thomas Wilkinson - -	3	0	0
Suma totalis -	£432	14	6

SHARP, OF LITTLE HORTON.



JOHN SHARP, of Little Horton.

THOMAS SHARP.

JOHN SHARP.

JOHN SHARP.

MARY d. of SARAH.

JOHN NALSON, M. A. Min. of Holbeck, Rec. Walkington, ob. 166...

ELIZABETH.

WILL. CLARKSON, Rector of Adle 1666, broth. to the said Mary.

ISAAC SHARP.

THOMAS, M. A. Minist.

FAITH d. of James Sale, of Pudsey, V. D. M. ob. 1710. s. p. July 15, 1742.

ABRAHAM, Mathematician, 1712, ob. s. p. July 15, 1742.

JOHN NALSON.

SUSANNAH.

JOHN SHARP Student in Physick, ob. s. p. 1704.

1. ELIZ.

ANN d. of Wm. Rusfield, Esq.

VALENTINE A. M. Succen. of the Vicar's Coral and Vicar of St. Martin's Coney-Street York, 1712, ob. March 3, 1722, æt. 40.

Extracted from the "Ducatus Leodiensis, by Ralph Thoresby."

MARY CLARKSON.

MARY CLARKSON was the elder of the two daughters of Robert Clarkeson and sister of the Rev. William Clarkson, of Adel. The younger sister Ester has left no record of herself in the family history.

Mary was baptized in the parish church at Bradford, on the 18th of February, 1615-16, and sixteen years later, on the 12th of December, 1632, less than a year after her father's decease, she was married to John Sharp, a son of Thomas Sharp, whose residence at Little Horton was within a few minutes walk of the Fairgap. John was born on the 17th of February, 1603-4, and was many years the senior of his wife.

"This family of the Sharps," says James, "has for a great length of time been seated at Little Horton, and as regards antiquity, respectability and the eminent men it has produced, stands very high." Ralph Thoresby, the learned antiquary, tells us that, "the family of the Sharps was of great antiquity in Bradford-dale, particularly at Little Horton, where there has been a succession of Thomas and John alternately for many generations." He also adds, that, "it is

rare to meet with so many learned authors so nearly allied."

At the time of Mary's marriage the civil wars had not occurred, and the Sharps were then at the zenith of their prosperity. There is abundant evidence that they warmly espoused the Parliamentary side, and were thus wholly in sympathy with their neighbors, the Clarksons.

In 1642, to advance the royal cause and to punish the people of Bradford, who were known to be "red hot" Puritans, Sir William Saville, with a body of troops, was sent against the town. He arrived on a Sunday, while the good people were assembled in the old parish church, but, upon being warned of their danger, so valiant was their defense that Sir William was compelled to retire, and his purpose was thus frustrated. The next year the Royal arms were more successful. The Earl of Newcastle himself, with a well appointed force, took the field. He met Lord Ferdinando Fairfax about the last of June at Adwalton Moor, and completely routed him. Lord Fairfax, after the battle, fled to Bradford, but, finding the place could not be properly defended, immediately withdrew. His son, Sir Thomas Fairfax, whose subsequent chief command of the armies was only

relinquished to Oliver Cromwell as his successor, also arrived to offer succor to the brave inhabitants; but, as there was no hope of successfully opposing the Earl, Sir Thomas likewise retreated with his forces, and in this movement he was ably assisted by John Sharp. Mr. Sharp had no doubt been very forward in resisting the first attack, though he is nowhere mentioned; but, in the later attack, under Newcastle, his name stands conspicuous with the names of Captains Lister and Bradshaw, as the great supporters of the Parliamentary interest.

The forces of Newcastle, however, were too large to be kept at bay, and Bradford became completely surrounded. Early in the morning of the 2d of July, Sir Thomas Fairfax, accompanied by fifty horsemen, among whom were Mary's husband and her brother David Clarkson, sallied forth from the town. They had gone but a little distance when they were met by three hundred of the enemy's cavalry. Nothing daunted by the disparity of numbers, Sir Thomas immediately made a charge, and with Sharp and a few others succeeded in dashing triumphantly through the line and so escaped. This was not the good fortune of young Clarkson, who, when

the charge became hot, prudently drew his rein and returned to beleaguered Bradford.

Sharp was probably separated in the fight from his general and betook himself to the little village of Coln, where he met Joseph Lister, who was one of his apprentices in the Clothiers Mills at Horton. Lister, in his diary, has recorded minutes of this meeting.

Mr. Sharp followed in the retreat of the Parliamentary army, and therefore shared in many of the brilliant victories which distinguished the Puritan arms and which finally caused the overthrow of the monarchy. He was present at the siege of Manchester, at the battle of Nantwich, and again at Marston Moor. For his many and eminent services in defense of the imperilled liberties of his country, he was presented by Parliament with a gold medal. This token of a nation's gratitude contained the figure of General Sir Thomas Fairfax on the obverse, and around the rim of the reverse the words, "*Post hac meliora*," and in the centre, "*Mervisti*."

Markham thinks that John Sharp, who had frequently served under Sir Thomas Fairfax, after he was made Lord General acted as his private secretary. It is well known that he and his brother-

in-law, William Clarkson, were both associated with the Fairfaxes, and it is probable that from their position, they were privy to the counsels that produced those great and notable events, which have had such a marked influence on all later times.

In 1649 Sharp had returned to Little Horton, where he resumed, we may suppose, his business of cloth worker or cloth manufacturer. This business was partly mechanical and partly mercantile, and stood at the head of the industrial pursuits of the period. King James I., we are told, incorporated himself into the Society of the Clothworkers, as men dealing in the principal and noblest staple-ware of the Kingdom.

In this same year, and for nearly twenty years afterwards, he acted as agent for Sir John Maynard and his wife, the Lady Mary, who had become owners of the Rectorial tithes of Bradford. Sir John, in one of his letters, dated the 2d May, writes to his agent, "You are richer in reputation than in wealth, and you are a freeholder. I desire you would do for me as you would do for yourself or friends."

The future years of the married life of Mary Sharp offer no particular subjects of interest. According to

Mr. Holroyd, she was esteemed one of the best educated and accomplished women in the parish of Bradford. There is a letter of hers still extant which was written in October, 1656. The handwriting is described as beautiful for that period, and the letter itself is full of tenderness. It is addressed to her eldest son, Thomas, then a student at Cambridge University.

Her husband died full of years and full of honors, respected by all his neighbors, on Whit-Sunday, 1672. Mary survived until the 30th of January, 1678-79.

The funeral expenses of the former were £16 5 0—a large sum for those days, while the legacies amounted to no less than £615 15 0.

By this marriage there were eleven children, namely: Thomas, John, Sarah, Isaac, Mary, Samuel, Martha, Isaac, William, Abraham and Robert. Thomas and Abraham alone reached maturity, and of whom only the former left descendants, and they became extinct in the second generation.

THOMAS SHARP.

THOMAS SHARP was the eldest of all the children of John Sharp and Mary Clarkson. He was born on the 13th of October, 1633, at his father's house in Little Horton, a considerable portion of which still remains and forms the ancient part of Horton Hall.

John Sharp, his father, writes James the historian, will ever be remembered for his ardent zeal in the cause of the Parliament, in the time of the civil war, and for the sacrifices he unflinchingly made in its behalf.

A near relative, an uncle of John Sharp, and bearing the same name, was scarcely less conspicuous as an adherent of the unfortunate monarch. In one of several engagements, in the interest of the King, in which Sharp took a part, he received a violent blow on the head with a battle axe, from which, it is said, he never wholly recovered. He was so devoted a Royalist, that he would not permit his beard to be shaven after the King's death!

Another relative of Thomas Sharp, some ten years his junior, was the once famous Archbishop of York, John Sharp. Calamy says they were cousins. The

Archbishop was a great favorite of Queen Anne, and perhaps enjoyed more of her confidence than any other man in the church. He had preached the sermon at her coronation and she consulted him on all occasions when any preferment in the gift of the crown was to be filled. It is a well known fact in literary history that Swift lost an English bishopric and was exiled to the deanery of St. Patrick's through the influence of Sharp.

Thomas, the subject of our sketch, was educated at the grammar school in his native place, and was sent up to Cambridge, about the year 1649. Having entered at Clare-hall, he was placed under the tuition of Mr. David Clarkson, his mother's brother, who when he left the University, committed his nephew to the care of Mr. John Tillottson, afterwards the renowned Archbishop of Canterbury. Under these notable tutors, Sharp became an excellent classical scholar and mathematician.

In a short account of him, prefixed to a little work which he wrote, it is stated, that "he was very studious whilst at college and having a capacious soul of admirable natural parts, which being cultivated by external advantages and his own more than ordinary industry, he became an universal scholar,

comprehending a whole encyclopedia of all profitable literature, a solid logician, a good linguist, a fluent rhetorician, a profound philosopher and a very skilful mathematician."

Upon entering into holy orders he accepted a curacy at Peterborough, but in the same year, 1660, removed to Yorkshire, when he was presented with the living at Adel, which had just become vacant by the death of his uncle William Clarkson. He was not long, however, to enjoy this benefice, for Dr. Hick, rector of Guisely, challenged it as his right, he having been formerly excluded by the "act against pluralities." Sharp having received Episcopal ordination could have resisted the challenge, but rather than dispute his claim he preferred to resign. He then retired to his father's house, at Little Horton.

This house, so famous for many stirring and interesting associations, had been built early in the time of the Stuarts, and upon the death of his father in 1672, became the property of Thomas Sharp. In a large room, on the ground floor, on the inside of the capacious window-sill, are still to be traced the initials T. S. scratched by his own hand. Here he continued to reside, and for a time exercised his ministry, great crowds flocking to hear him.

In 1668, he had married Elizabeth Bagnall, but this lady died not long afterwards, leaving no issue. Five years later he married again. His second wife was Faith, a daughter of the Rev. James Sale, an eminent non-conformist minister at Pudsey, and a man of great reputation among his party. Sharp was now about forty years of age.

A frequent visitor at the Hall was Ralph Thoresby, the famous antiquary and author of the "Topography of Leeds." He appears to have been warmly attached to its owner and to have had the highest possible admiration for his ministerial abilities. His diary contains several notices of his friend, with copious extracts from his sermons.

The subject of our sketch was agreeable and scholarly and as a preacher was very fluent. The style of his sermons was peculiar. His object was not to please the fancy, but, to inform the judgment, convince the conscience and enlist the will and affections. Though admitted to orders in the Episcopal Church, he did not continue in it, and was not an enthusiastic admirer of its liturgy. It is said, on one occasion, when he heard it extravagantly commended, he remarked, "it was defective in necessities, redundant in superfluities,

dangerous in some things, disputable in many, disorderly in all."

He could never be persuaded to send anything to the press, though often solicited to do so. His reply invariably was, that there were books enough printed.

After ministering for several years at Little Horton, he was called to Morley, where he remained some time and was highly esteemed. His last parish was at Leeds. Previous to his purchase of a house in that town, it was his custom to drive over from the Hall, a distance of eleven miles, conduct the services at the chapel on Mill-hill, of which he was now the pastor, and return the same evening. The double journey, however, from and to the Hall, and the two services, were too much for him, and though his secular affairs required his attendance frequently at Horton, it was a great convenience to him to have a residence at Leeds.

He was now in his average health. He was industriously engaged in his new parish and enjoyed the respect of all who knew him. But the pleurisy, with which he frequently suffered and which at times gave him great trouble, was before long to put an end to his labors.

In the summer of 1693, early in August, he preached a sermon preparatory to the communion and on the Sunday following administered the sacrament. The account from which we quote, says, "it was an occasion of deep interest, he was wonderfully enlarged both in expression and warm affections, so that some were ready to think, that he was in Heaven already, and admired the grace of God in him." On Thursday of the same week he was again prostrated with his old malady. "He was very patient," says Thoresby, who was constantly at his bed-side, "even to admiration under the pangs of death: for all night long he breathed so faintly and with such difficulty that we despaired of his continuance an hour longer. But he spoke little after seven, when he discoursed about his library. When once in the night we expressed fear he should catch cold, he replied with a generous disdain, 'What fear of cold, when so shortly to be dissolved, and as a cold lump of clay deposited in the silent grave?' &c. At another time he said, 'there is no comfort at death like a faithful discharge of duty,' and calling his daughters he gave them excellent advice, 'to improve time before launching into the vast ocean of eternity. Oh, eternity, eternity, what shallow conceptions have

we of it!' As to his son John, who was at Mr. Frankland's Academy, he prayed that God would incline his heart to the ministry and desired that he might be continued at Mr. Frankland's, whom he thought an excellent person and very serviceable to the church of God; and then in an ecstasy of joy he exclaimed, 'Oh, the infinite riches of free grace!'

He lingered until the 19th, when after taking an affectionate leave of his wife and daughters and commending his soul to his Redeemer, he entered into rest at the age of sixty.

His burial, which took place three days afterwards, was attended by many of the clergy and a large concourse of friends. The body was interred in the chancel of St. Johns Church, near the remains of the good Mr. Wales. Subsequently, at the people's request, two funeral sermons were preached at his meeting place, on Mill-hill. On this occasion, says Thoresby, "the chapel was so extremely crowded that we could scarce get in, multitudes being turned back that could not get near enough to the walls and windows to hear. It was the greatest and saddest assembly that ever I beheld."

Sharp's wife and three children, one son and two daughters, survived him. The widow died in 1710.

Elizabeth, one of the daughters, married Robert Stansfield, of Bradford, and had nine children, all of whom died without issue. Martha, another daughter, died unmarried, in 1698.

John, the only son of the Rev. Thomas Sharp, was a man of great promise. He received his education at the Bradford school, studied medicine at Leyden, and died a bachelor, on the 13th of January, 1704, and was buried at St. Peters.

Sharp wrote among other things a work entitled, "Divine Comforts, Antidoting Inward Perplexities;" also, "Verses on Sleep," and other poems.

ABRAHAM SHARP.

ABRAHAM SHARP was a younger brother of the Rev. Thomas Sharp, a sketch of whose life has just been concluded. Abraham was born in 1651, at Little Horton. He received his education at the Bradford Seminary, and like all the other Sharps, who were proverbially clever, soon attracted attention by his talents.

There can be little doubt that his after life was determined by an early acquaintance which he

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THE LATE MRS. J. C. SHARP OF NEW YORK.

My mother, Mrs. J. C. Sharp, married Robert Sharp, a native of New York, and had nine children, all of whom have since been issued. Martha, another daughter, was married to a Dr. J. C. Sharp.

My father, the only son of the Rev. Thomas Sharp, was a native of New York. He received his education in the Bradford School, studied medicine in London, and died a bachelor, on the 13th of January, 1810, and was buried at St. Peter's.

My mother, among other things, a work entitled, "Domestic Conflicts, A Pilgrimage toward Perplexities," also, "Verses for the People," &c. &c.

THE LATE MR. SHARP.

My father, Mr. Sharp, was a younger brother of the Rev. John Sharp, a native of New York, just mentioned. My father was born in 1754, at New York. He received his education at the University of New York, and after the war, he proceeded to study at the University of New York, and soon after, he was ordained a minister of the Gospel.

It is a little doubtful that his later life was a happy one, but his early acquaintance with the



ABRAHAM SHARP



formed with the distinguished astronomer Flamsteed. This eminent man, pleased with the attainments of his friend, after having obtained for him other employment, soon discovered that the young Yorkshire scholar would be an acquisition to the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, and took him as his assistant.

He was now only twenty-three, and having made many of the instruments used at the Observatory, in which he evinced mechanical skill and ingenuity of no common order, he was employed to construct the Mural Arch, which excited the admiration of Smeaton, the celebrated civil engineer. Subsequently, with a never flagging energy, he assisted Flamsteed with his well known catalogue of 3,000 stars. But this continued and severe labor was soon to tell upon his delicate constitution. His health became greatly impaired and he retired early in life to Little Horton.

By the deaths of his eldest brother, Thomas, and that gentleman's son, he had come into possession of the family estates. He never again removed from Little Horton for any great length of time. When he had recovered from the effects of the toil at Greenwich, he fitted up a room for his study in the old

Hall, into which he placed every description of astronomical instruments. The telescopes he made use of were of his own construction; and the lenses ground and admirably adjusted with his own hand. This room still remains and keeps much of its primitive appearance. An old oak table, in which cavities are worn by the long and incessant rubbing of his elbows while writing is yet part of its furniture.

His life now became that of a recluse, rarely holding personal communication with any one. Thoresby and a minister or two of his own religious persuasion sometimes visited him, and two residents of Bradford, the one a mathematician and the other an apothecary, were at favored times admitted to his study. These gentlemen, when they went to see him, rubbed a stone against a prescribed part of the outside wall of the house, and if he wished their company they were allowed to come in, otherwise they returned disappointed.

He was very abstemious and seldom took his meals regularly. In order that his reveries and calculations might not be interrupted and disconcerted, he had a square hole cut in the wainscot or partition between his room and the one adjoining, and before this hole he contrived a sliding-board, by which the

domestic could put his food into the room without making any noise or being perceived. As Sharp had opportunity he visited the spot for refreshment. When engaged on abstruse subjects, it frequently happened that breakfast, dinner and supper remained together untouched by him. Once, it is related, he was so absorbed in the solution of a profound mathematical problem that he neglected his meals for several days together. On this occasion, when his friends broke in upon his reverie, he complained with his accustomed mildness that they had deranged a series of investigations which it had taken him three days to make, and that he would have to begin the work almost anew.

After he had settled at Horton, he still continued to assist Flamsteed. The elaborate tables in the second volume of the "*Historia Cœlestis*" were calculated by Sharp, and for this work he also prepared drawings of all the heavenly constellations. These drawings were subsequently sent to Amsterdam to be engraved by an eminent artist, and such was their excellence that the originals were esteemed superior to the engravings in finish and elegance.

Being a man of unwearied perseverance and accounted the most accurate computer of his day, he

was the frequent adviser of his scientific contemporaries in difficult and laborious calculations. There is an interesting story current, that on one occasion being baffled himself in the solution of a problem, and being directed to a distinguished scholar in Scotland, he made a journey all the way thither on foot, not, however, to learn how to accomplish his task, but only to learn that there was but one man who could help him, and that he lived at Little Horton, and his name was Abraham Sharp!

During all this time he maintained by correspondence an intimacy with several of the most celebrated mathematicians and astronomers of that eminent age, —John Flamsteed, the Astronomer Royal, Sir Isaac Newton, Drs. Halley and Wallis, Sir Jonas Moore, Sherwin, Taylor, Hodgson, and a multitude of others.

Abraham Sharp was very pious and charitable, and on Sundays was a regular attendant at the old meeting-house in Chapel-lane, which was built upon ground given by the Sharps. On such occasions he had the whimsical habit of filling his pockets with half-pence, which he suffered to be taken out of his hand held behind him by those who thronged the road for that purpose.

He lived, like Newton, to a patriarchal age. He

was of middle stature, of spare body, and constitutionally weak. For three or four years before his death he became very infirm and feeble. He died on the 18th of July, 1742, aged 90, and was buried in Bradford Church with great solemnity. Crowds of people followed his remains to the grave, and a funeral oration was pronounced on the occasion.

In the chancel a mural tablet has been erected to his memory, with a Latin inscription, which, translated, reads as follows:

H. S. E.

HERE . LIE . BURIED

THE . MORTAL . REMAINS . OF

ABRAHAM . SHARP.

HE . WAS . DESCENDED . FROM . AN . ANCIENT . FAMILY

AND . WAS . UNITED . BY . THE . TIE . OF . BLOOD

RELATIONSHIP . TO . THE

ARCHBISHOP . OF . YORK . OF . THAT . NAME.

JUSTLY . RECKONED . AMONG . THE . MOST . SKILFUL

MATHEMATICIANS . OF . HIS . TIME

AND . INTIMATE . WITH . SUCH . OF . HIS . CONTEMPORARIES

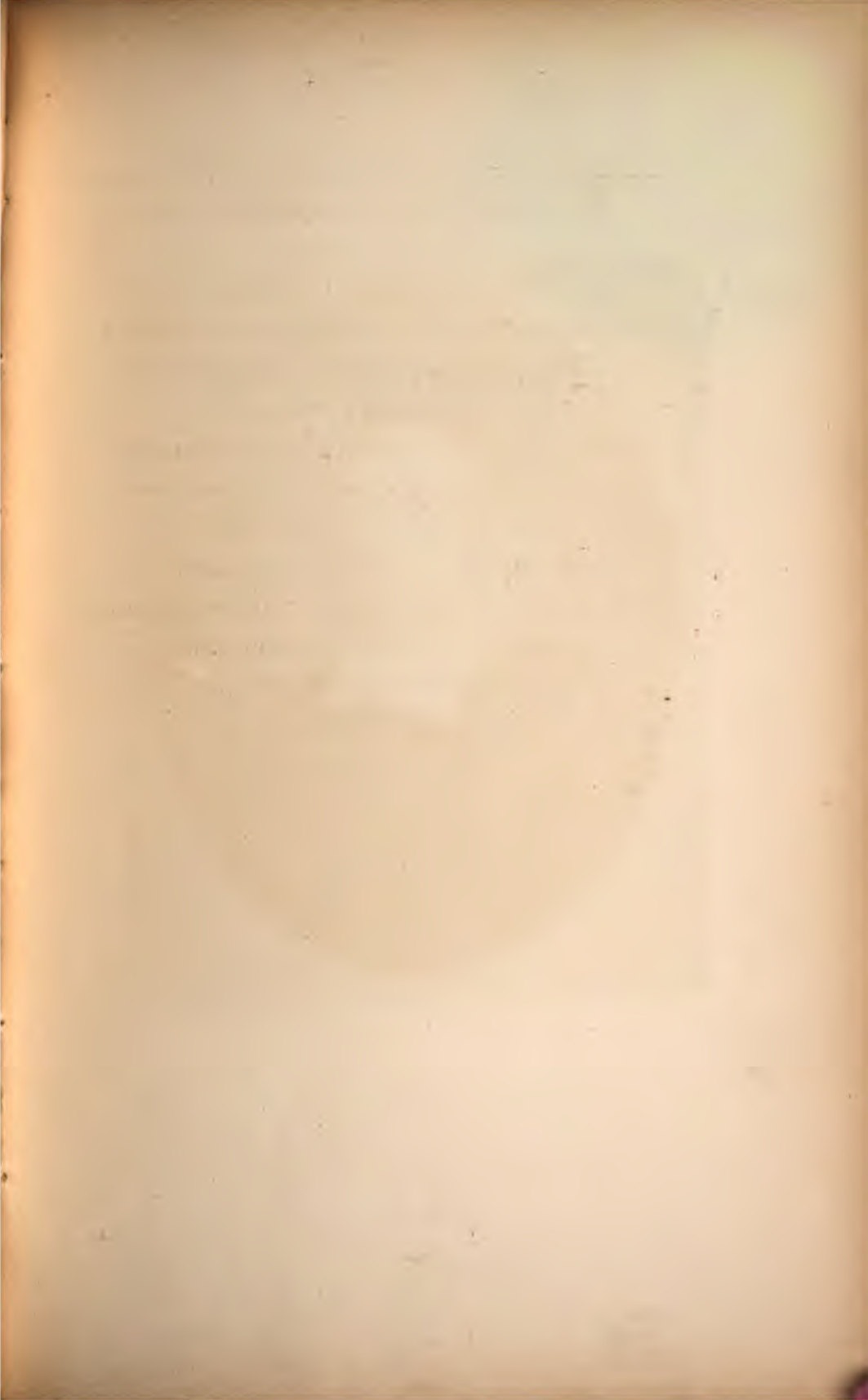
AS . WERE . MOST . DISTINGUISHED . IN THE

SAME . PURSUITS

ESPECIALLY . WITH . FLAMSTEED . AND . THE

RENOWNED . NEWTON.

HE . ILLUSTRATED . THE . ASTRONOMY . OF . THE
FORMER . BY . DIAGRAMS
WITH . THE . GREATEST . ACCURACY
AND . PUBLISHED . ANONYMOUSLY . VARIOUS . WRITINGS
TOGETHER . WITH . DESCRIPTIONS . OF . INSTRUMENTS
CONSTRUCTED . BY . HIMSELF.
AFTER . A . QUIET . AND . USEFUL . LIFE . UNMARRIED
REMARKABLE . FOR . HIS . PIETY . TOWARDS . GOD
HIS . KINDNESS . TO . THE . POOR
AND . HIS . BENEVOLENCE . TO . ALL . MEN
AT . LAST . IN . THE . NINETY-FIRST . YEAR . OF . HIS . AGE
REPLETE . WITH . EARTHLY . KNOWLEDGE
HE . PASSED . TO . HEAVEN
JULY . 18 . 1742





REV. DAVID CLARKSON. B.D.

FROM AN ENGRAVING PREFIXED TO A FOLIO EDITION
OF HIS SERMONS PUB. IN LONDON 1696.



For a full and complete
description of the
contents of the
collection, see the
list of contents.





SECTION II.

REV. DAVID CLARKSON.

IN this section we resume the sketch of the family in the direct line of descent.

David, the youngest son of Robert Clarkeson and Agnes Lilly, of Bradford, was scarcely eleven years old when his father died. He was born in February, 1621-2, and according to the parish register, was baptized at St. Peters, on the 3d of March following.

His early youth was doubtless passed in his native town, and it is more than probable that he received his elementary education at the grammar school of the same place.

From Bradford, he went to Cambridge. The precise date of his matriculation at Trinity has not been ascertained, possibly 1640; but, to a young

mind thirsting for knowledge and emulous of the distinction which it afforded, the transition from a provincial school to a University like that of Cambridge must have been an event of the greatest interest.

It was while quietly pursuing his studies at college that the political troubles, which gave rise to the great rebellion, and had such an influence upon his later life, first led to open strife between the King and the Parliament. It would be needless to attempt to describe the many and varied questions that entered into the great national debate, or to seek to picture the scenes of slaughter occasioned by one of the most terrible of all devastating wars. The whole kingdom was in a state of alarm and Bradford enjoyed no immunity from the common excitement.

David came down from the University in the winter of 1642, soon after the first attack made upon the town by the Royalist forces. Bradford was now for a second time threatened. An engagement had just taken place at Adwalton Moor, and had resulted in the complete discomfiture of the Parliamentary troops. The Earl of Newcastle, with his victorious army, was encamped on Bowling-Hill, and the

artillery was planted so as to command the town. The old church was in danger. Sacks filled with wool were hurriedly suspended on its walls and "when," says an eye witness, "the spiteful shot cut the strings, then the enemy shouted full loudly as the pack fell down."

"About the going down of the sun," says the same narrator, "off goes their guns before the inhabitants were aware, and at their first shot they killed three men that were sitting on a bench, and all that night it was almost as light as day with so many guns firing continually."

To increase the alarm which generally prevailed, a rumor was industriously circulated, that upon the surrender of Bradford all its inhabitants would be put to the sword to avenge the death of a young nobleman, who, while crying for quarter, had been cruelly murdered.

We cannot tell whether these threats of summary vengeance had any effect on young Clarkson, but, early the next morning, while it was still dark, with his brother-in-law, John Sharp, and a numerous cavalcade, he joined in an attempt to escape through the enemy's lines. The result of this adventure has already been related. Not meeting with the success

he had anticipated, David alighted from his horse and while leading him back through the street was met by Mrs. Lister and her son Joseph. To the latter we are indebted for the following interesting narrative of Clarkson's second attempt to escape from town.

"As we walked up the street, we met a young gentleman, called David Clarkson, leading a horse. My mother asked him where he had been with that horse,—says he, 'I made an essay to go with my brother Sharp and the army, who broke through the enemy's leaguer: but the charge was so hot I came back again, and now I know not what to do.' Then, I answered, and said, 'pray mother, give me leave to go with David, for I think I can lead him a safe way,' for, being born in that town I knew all the bye-ways about it. David also desired her to let me go with him, so, she begged a blessing on me, and sent me away, not knowing where we could be safe. So away we went, and I led him to a place called the Sill-bridge, where a foot company was standing, yet, I think they did not see us, so we ran on the right hand of them and then waded over the water and hearing a party of horse come down the lane, towards the town, we laid us down in the side of the

corn and they perceived us not. It being about day-break, we stayed here as long as we durst for being discovered, it beginning to be light. Well, we got up, and went in the shade of the hedge, and then looking about us, and hoping to be past the danger of the leaguer, we took to the highway, intending to go to a little town called Clayton; and having waded over the water, we met with two men that were troopers, and who had left their horses in the town, and hoped to get away on foot and now they and we walked together and hoped we had escaped all danger, and all on a sudden, a man on horseback from towards the beacon had espied us and came riding towards us, and we, like poor affrighted sheep, seeing him come fast towards us, with a drawn sword in his hand, we foolishly kept together, and thought to save ourselves by running. Had we scattered from one another, he had but got one of us. We all got into a field: he crossed the field and came to us, and as it pleased God, being running by the hedge side, I espied a thick holly tree, and thought perhaps I might hide myself in this tree, and escape, so I crept into it, and pulled the boughs about me, and presently I heard them cry out for quarter. He wounded one of them,

and took them all prisoners and said 'there were four of you, where is the other?' but, they knew not, for I being the last and least of them, was not missed: so he never looked after me more; but, I have often thought since how easily we might have knocked him down, had we but had courage; but, alas! we had none."

Released from his captivity, young Clarkson returned to college, and in the following year, 1644, received, at Trinity, the honors of the baccalaureate.

The great political question of the day had at length invaded the universities, and loyal Cambridge, aware of the King's urgent necessity, had sent her plate to be coined into money for the royal chest. This act brought Cromwell, who was the member for the borough in Parliament, to the town, and having raised a troop of horse in that neighborhood, he employed his authority in no way to the satisfaction of the royalist members of the colleges. An examination into the affairs of the university by the Earl of Manchester, commissioned by the Parliament, resulted in the expulsion of nearly two hundred masters and fellows, besides scholars. The inmates of Clare-Hall were subjected to the common inquisition, and Dr. Paske was removed from the master-

ship and seven others were ejected from their fellowships. Among these was the celebrated Mr. Peter Gunning, who, after the Restoration, was elevated to the bishopric of Chichester and then transferred to that of Ely. He was expelled, he says, from the university, "for preaching a sermon at St. Mary's against the covenant, as well as refusing to take the covenant." Mr. Clarkson received the nomination to this fellowship, in which he was confirmed on the 5th of May, 1645, by warrant of the Earl of Manchester, and the circumstances connected with it were alike honorable to all the parties concerned. The course the Earl took in filling the vacancies has been thus described. He directed a paper to the colleges, stating, that, "his purpose was forthwith to supply the fellowships, and desired that if there were any in the respective colleges who, in regard of degree, learning and piety, should be found fit for such preferment, they would, upon the receipt of that paper, return him their names, in order to their being examined by the Assembly of Divines." The new Master of Clare-Hall was Ralph Cudworth, the author of the "Intellectual System" a man whose scholarship was not excelled by any who were connected with the University

during the era of the Commonwealth. It was no small honor to David Clarkson to be nominated by a community over which Cudworth presided, and to be approved by such an Assembly of Divines as then sat at Westminster.

Clarkson held his fellowship for nearly six years, and was singularly fortunate in having committed to him for instruction several students of marked ability. Among the number were two, whose subsequent careers were very different. They occupied together a chamber over the college gate, and both in their earlier and later life were very warm friends. One, John Tillotson, was elevated to the Episcopal throne and became Primate of all England. The other, Francis Holcroft, a Puritan, for preaching the same gospel, was tried as a felon, sentenced to death and for many years kept a close prisoner in Cambridge Castle.

Henry, an elder brother of Francis Holcroft, was a fellow at the University, and between him and David Clarkson there existed, says Calamy, "great endearments." Both were of the same age, both were distinguished for their fervent piety and were alike congregational in their views of church government. The "endearments" here formed were after-

croft, Lancashire.
T. of the Hurst.

HENRY ROYDEN, ² SIR OLIVER ST. JOHN, Viscount Grandison,
1631. Lord Deputy of Ireland, died 1630.

Essex,

JEFFREY, Captain in the Low country.

DAVID CLARKSON, born 1622;
died 1686.

7. LETTICE.
8. ANN.
9. DOUGLAS.

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wards confirmed by the marriage of Clarkson with his friend's sister, Elizabeth, a daughter of Sir Henry Holcroft, Knight, of East Ham, county of Essex, and of Long Acre, county of Middlesex. This event was probably the occasion of Clarkson resigning his fellowship, to which that able young scholar, John Tillotson, succeeded.

The Holcrofts were settled for centuries in Lancashire and had been represented in the Royal Parliament as early as the reign of Edward III. One branch, known in history as that of the Vale Royal, was greatly enriched under Henry VIII., at the time of the sequestration of the monasteries, and received an accession of dignity under Queen Mary, when Sir Thomas Holcroft was made Knight Marshal of England. Another branch of the family established itself at Basingstoke in Hants, while still another settled at Hurst in Lancashire. The Holcrofts, at East Ham, Essex, came of the latter branch.

The grandfather of Mrs. Clarkson, Thomas Holcroft, having chosen the profession of arms, was sent by Queen Elizabeth into Ireland, to suppress a revolt instigated by the Earl of Tyrone. In this he was assisted by Sir Oliver St. John. The insurrec-

tion was crushed and the intimacy now formed between these two brother officers resulted soon after the death of Holcroft, which occurred a few years later, in the marriage of his widow with Sir Oliver.

Sir Oliver St. John, who thus became the step-grandfather of Mrs. Clarkson, was rapidly advanced in dignity. He was made President of Munster, Vice-President of Connaught, and, in 1616, Lord Deputy of Ireland. In the ancient records (given with too much detail to be repeated here) is a full account of the ceremonial attending his investiture with this vice-regal authority, in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, on the 30th of August of that year, after an impressive sermon by Dr. Usher, with its accompanying pageantry and brilliant services, its gathering of Lord Chancellor, Lord Treasurer, the Lord Justices, the Archbishop and Bishops, Bearers of the Sword of State, of the White Wand, and other insignia, and the nobility, with the after procession to the castle.

Subsequently, Sir Oliver was created Viscount Grandison and Baron Tregoze, and at length he retired to his Manor of Battersea, in Surrey, where he died, in 1630, after holding the further trusts of

Lord High Treasurer of Ireland and Privy Councillor of England. His wife survived him, and left by her will to her "dearest sonne, Sir Henry Holcroft, K^t," whom she appointed her sole executor, the remainder of her property, after certain bequests made to friends.

In the church at Battersea there is a monument to the memory of Lord and Lady Grandison, with a long Latin inscription, commemorative of the virtues and rank of the Viscount.

Henry Holcroft, the father of Mrs. Clarkson, and son of the "R^t Hon. Joanne Ladie Viscountesse Grandison," by her first husband Thomas Holcroft, had been made in 1617 Chancellor of the Exchequer of Ireland. It was probably about this time too, though the date has not been ascertained, that he was married to Lettice, the widow of Sir William Danvers. Lettice had previously been the wife of Edward Cherry, and was still quite young. She was the daughter of Sir Francis Aungier by his first wife, Douglas Fitzgerald. Sir Francis was the Master of the Rolls and afterwards Baron of Longford, and his wife, the sister of Gerald, the 14th Earl of Kildare, was the lineal descendant of the family of the present ducal house of Leinster.

At the time of the marriage of his daughter, Sir Francis Aungier was living in great splendor in the Monastery of the White Friars in Dublin, which had been granted to him by King James.

On his return to England, Henry Holcroft, in 1622, received the honor of knighthood at Whitehall. He had been elected a member of the Royal Parliament from the borough of Pontefract, in Yorkshire; his only colleague being Sir Thomas Wentworth, afterwards very famous as Earl of Strafford, whose unjust and cruel execution paved the way for the subsequent downfall of the King. Later, Holcroft was appointed upon a commission to administer the affairs of the Kingdom of Ireland, a position seemingly of great trust and honor. At one time he was in some way connected with the palace, either as secretary to the King, or, what is more likely, as gentleman of the royal bed-chamber. He sat in Parliament a second time, and was a member when Cromwell delivered his maiden speech, Hampden and Pym, and Holles and Selden and Wentworth and Coke, being in the same House. Still later, his political views seem to have undergone a change,

and when we next hear of him, he was defending the liberties of the people against the usurpation of the King. There is no reason to think, however, that he was in any sense a violent partisan, or that he favored the execution of Charles. After the death of his mother, the Viscountess, in 1631, Holcroft withdrew himself in great measure from public life. His will was dated April 2, 1649, in which, after referring to the jointure his wife, Dame Lettice, possessed in certain of his landed property, he devises fixed annuities to his four youngest sons, Henry, Charles, Gerald, and Francis; to each of his three daughters, Elizabeth, Lettice, and Douglas, he bequeaths three hundred pounds, and in a certain contingency, one hundred pounds more to each, and after the decease of his wife, his eldest son, St. John, was to inherit his father's portrait. All the books were likewise left to St. John with the exception of St. Chrysostom's works, in eight volumes, which were reserved for Henry. On May 21, 1650, a codicil was added, and soon afterward the old knight must have died, as the will was admitted to probate on the 28th of June following. David Clarkson signed the codicil as a witness, and this incident would seem to justify the conclusion

that he was already regarded as an intimate friend of the family, though his marriage did not take place till the next year.

The chart which we have inserted of Mrs. Clarkson's royal descent and later connexion with the Sovereigns of England and France, embracing as it does some of the most illustrious names in the former kingdom, is extracted from the Records of the College, and will, we are sure, interest the reader.

David Clarkson, at the time of his marriage, was thirty-one years of age, and his wife, Elizabeth, who was two years his junior, is said to have been a lady of eminent intelligence.

It is not probable that he had possessed any preferment in the Church before he was invited, in 1653, to become the minister of Crayford, in Kent, nor is there any evidence in the parish books, where careful search has been instituted, that he ever succeeded to this incumbency. Subsequently, he was for only a few months settled at Mortlake, not far from Battersea, in Surrey. In June, 1656, Mr. Robert Parkes was presented to the benefice.

After his resignation of Mortlake, some five years intervene, and we next find Clarkson, the tutor, in the pulpit of St. Giles, Cripplegate, London, discuss-

George, at Windsor.

VICTORIA, QUEEN OF GREAT BRITAIN.

from whom

ELIZABETH, Queen of England: born, 7th Sept., 1533. Died, unmarried, 24th Mar., 1603: buried in the Abbey of Westminster.

MARY, Queen of England: born 8th Feb., 1515. Died, without issue, 17th Nov., 1558: buried in the Abbey of Westminster.

EDWARD VI, King of England: born, 12th Oct., 1537. Died, unmarried, 6th July, 1553: buried in the Abbey of Westminster.

MARY, daughter and heir of Sir John Leigh, of Stockwell, Kt. Widow of Sir Thomas Paston.

HARD FITZ-GERALD, second son. Brother of Thomas, 10th, and Gerald, 11th, Earls of Kildare. Born, 17th Jan., 1528. Lieutenant of the Gentlemen Pensioners.

DOUGLAS, youngest daughter of Edward Fitz-Gerald, and sister of Gerald, 14th Earl of Kildare (first wife of Francis, Lord Aungier).

FRANCIS, Baron Aungier, of Longford, county of Longford (so created by patent, 24th June, 1621), P. C., &c. Some time Master of the Rolls in Ireland. Died, Oct. 15th, 1634, aged 70 years; buried in St. Patrick's Church, Dublin. Will dated 28th Nov., 1628; proved, 6th Feb., 1634.

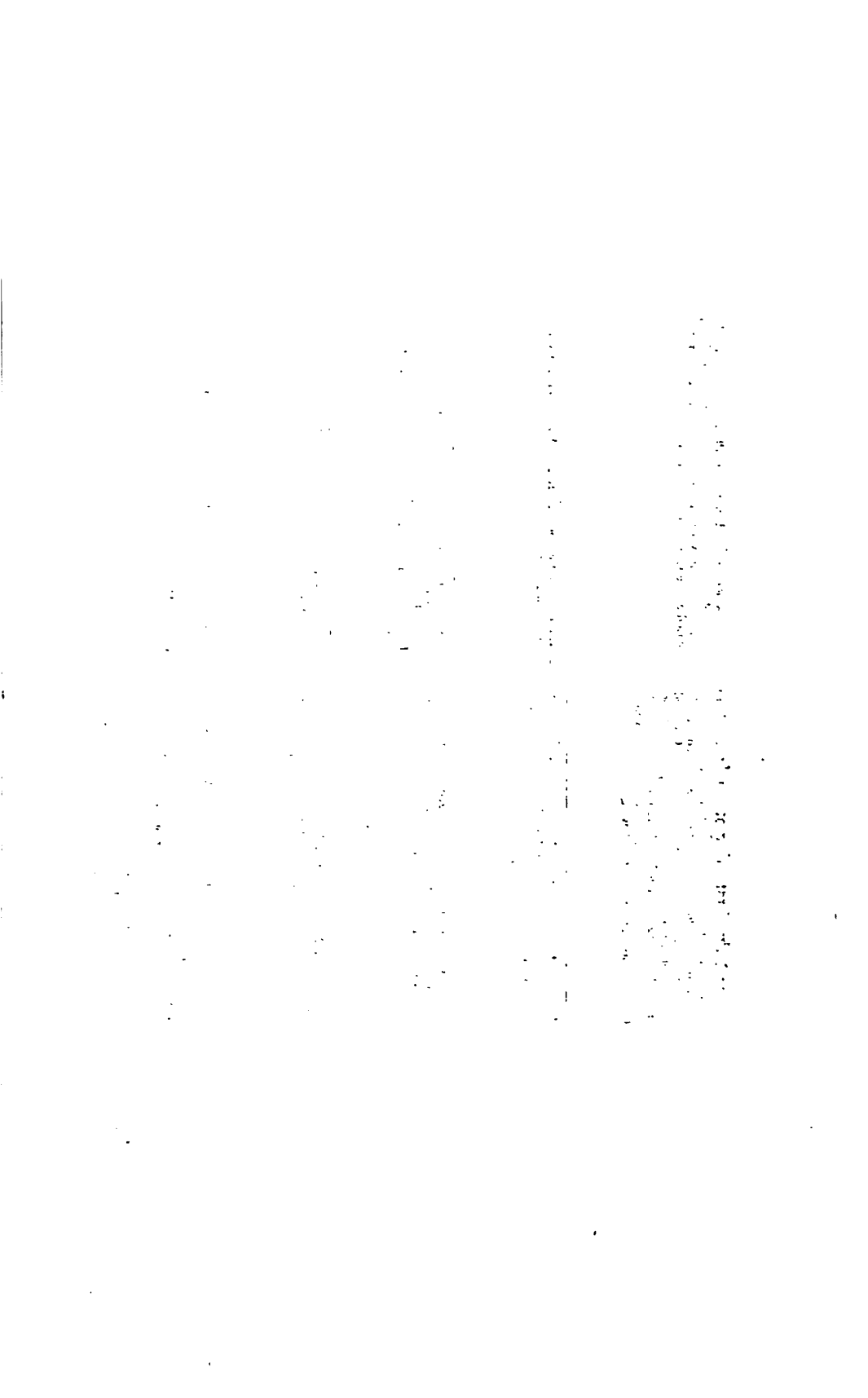
LETITCH, daughter of Francis, Lord Aungier. Married — 1st, to Edward Cherry, of Dublin; 2dly, to Sir William Dauvers; and 3dly, to Sir Henry Holcroft, all before 1632. Executrix to her husband, Sir Henry Holcroft, 1690.

SIR HENRY HOLCROFT, of East Ham, county of Essex, and of Long Acre, county of Middlesex. Knighted, 1st May, 1622. Will dated 2d April, 1649; proved, 28th June, 1690.

- 1. St. John Holcroft: *et.* 14 years, 1634
- 2. Henry.
- 3. Charles.
- 4. Gerald.
- 5. Francis.

- 1. ELIZABETH: *et.* 10 years, 1634
- 2. Lettice.
- 3. Anna.
- 4. Douglas.

Extracted from the Records of the College of Arms, London.
WILLIAM COURTHOPE,
Somerset and Registrar.



ing, "What Christians must do that the influences of the ordinances may abide upon them," and Tillotson, the pupil, illustrating, "Wherein lies the exact righteousness which is required between man and man." These lectures were delivered in 1661, and were intended to supplement a course of Morning Exercises which, during the civil wars, had been held in London with "extraordinary solemnity and devotion."

Religious affairs in England were in a sad state of confusion. The conference which had been called at the Savoy Palace, to reunite the Puritans to the Church Establishment, had conducted its debates with much bitterness on both sides, and breaking up in anger, widened still further the breach which already existed. Charles, who had promised to respect the scruples of the Presbyterians, detested their system, and was determined to establish Episcopacy at all hazards.

Next came the Act of Uniformity, which went into operation on the Feast of St. Bartholomew, August 24th, 1662, when nearly two thousand beneficed clergymen surrendered their livings. This was followed by penal statutes against the non-conformists, statutes for which, unfortunately, pre-

cedents might too easily be found in the Puritan legislation.

The magistrates by whom these rigorous measures were to be enforced were in general men influenced by party spirit and by the remembrance of wrongs which they had themselves suffered in the time of the Commonwealth. The gaols were therefore soon crowded with dissenters, and among the sufferers were some of whose genius and virtue any Christian society might well be proud.

A nephew of Clarkson, Thomas Sharp, the subject of a previous article, narrowly escaped confinement. He had preached in defiance of the law, and twenty pounds were offered for his apprehension. When the officers arrived at the house to search for him, and came to the room in which he was sitting, by the clumsy use of the key one of them shot the bolt, and, lifting the latch, said he could not be there, for the door was locked and the key on the outside.

Mr. Clarkson was now in the full maturity of his powers, but, partly as the result of persecuting enactments and partly in consequence of his constitutional modesty, he spent most of his time in retirement. But this seclusion, while it withdrew him from the active scenes of life, furnished the

opportunity for that careful and critical study of the Scriptures, the writings of the fathers, and other works of antiquity, which enabled him, with the aid of his pen, to appeal to a much larger congregation than any single audience.

During the general discontent which now prevailed, London suffered two great disasters, such as never, in so short a space of time, befell one city.

A pestilence, surpassing in horror any that during three centuries had visited the island, swept away, in six months, more than a hundred thousand human beings. Scarcely had the dead-cart ceased to go its rounds, when a fire, such as had not been known in Europe since the conflagration of Rome under Nero, laid in ruins the whole city, from the Tower to the Temple, and from the river to the purlieus of Smithfield. The misery caused by these great calamities only tended to increase the dissensions which existed among the people and to excite their minds still more against the government. While the pestilence was regarded as a divine retribution for the wickedness of the times, the popular prejudices of the day ascribed the origin of the fire to the Roman Catholics. The state of parties was anything but satisfactory, and the aspect of foreign

affairs was deemed by all earnest Protestants as most threatening to the interests of the reformed churches. There was a general anxiety felt to fortify the public mind against the aggressions of Romish emissaries. Amongst other methods adopted to this end, the non-conformist ministers resolved on a fourth course of Morning Exercises against Popery. They were to be conducted at a meeting-house near the Maze, in the parish of St. Olave, Southwark, and in one of these services Mr. Clarkson undertook to show that "the doctrine of justification is dangerously corrupted in the Romish Church." The argument was one of great ability, but Mr. Clarkson was not satisfied with a solitary testimony against Rome, and therefore occupied his leisure in the preparation of a work on the "practical divinity" of the Papists. He thought that "the knowing of it would be a sufficient dissuasion from it, to those who regard God and their souls." He held that "the danger of Popery in points of *faith* had been sufficiently discovered to the world by the divines of the Reformation, but their doctrine which concerns *life* and *practice* had not been so much insisted on."

To establish this view he brought together the

results of vast reading and study with that accuracy and candor which mark all his polemical treatises. He did not, therefore, avail himself of the casuistical writings of the Jesuists, which, as Pascal has fully shown, would supply abundant illustrations of a defective morality, but consulted the canonists and divines, secular and regular, of every sort, their canon law and the decrees of councils. Indeed, he does justice to the Jesuists by saying, "I cannot discern that the practical divinity of the Jesuists is more corrupt than that of other Romish writers, their contemporaries. I never yet met with any author of that order so intolerably licentious, but might be matched, if not out-vied by others." He therefore, largely consulted the works of Cardinal Bellarmine and their more ancient divines, and the best and strictest of their casuists, the majority of whom were Dominicans, the most antagonistic of all the orders to the Jesuists, and the greater part of whom had written before that order was founded. It is true he quoted from the voluminous writings of the Spanish Jesuit, Francis Suarez, "not for the sake of his own opinions however, but, because he usually gives an account of the common doctrine out of unexceptionable authors."

The researches necessary to the composition of this "excellent discourse," as Dr. Calamy justly designates it, prepared Mr. Clarkson to take part in a controversy that arose in 1679, and which stirred the spirit of the nation more than any event which had occurred since the restoration.

It was the firm conviction of the public at large that there existed a formidable plot to kill the King, subvert the constitution, and utterly to extirpate the Protestant religion, and restore Popery again in all its terrors. London was one scene of wild alarm. Armed train-bands patrolled the city, and no one ventured into the streets without being provided with a weapon. So great was the panic that the Roman Catholic peers, for the first time, were excluded from the Parliament, and the gaols were filled with Papists, and it is sad to remember that the delirium of excitement caused even some to expiate their offences at Tyburn. Those executed protested their innocence in very solemn and affecting terms, and their dying utterances were printed in various forms and widely circulated. These declarations must have produced an astounding effect on those who read them, and to counteract their influence several pamphlets appeared, one of

which, in small folio, is supposed to be from the pen of Mr. Clarkson.

In a transaction, which (in the language of Fox) has left "an indelible disgrace upon the English nation," it is to be regretted that Clarkson's name is in any way associated; but, it can scarcely be deemed surprising that Protestant dissenters, with their instinctive dread of Popery, should have shared in the universal and unspeakable terror of the people.

In this state of affairs it was felt by most of the moderate non-conformists that an accommodation of differences between the Church of England and the dissenters was very necessary, and two of their leading ministers were invited to confer with Tillotson, Stillingfleet, and others, upon the subject of a "comprehension." The influence of the King and Court, however, and an unwillingness to yield in essential points brought the negotiations to a fruitless conclusion. The bishops pretended they were in greater danger from the prevalence of Presbyterianism than of Popery, which, though favored in high places, was very repugnant to the genius of the nation. The discussion served but one purpose, and that was still further to

separate, if not to exasperate, the parties in the contest.

The signal for the combat came from an unexpected quarter. Dean Stillingfleet, who had shown such Christian spirit towards dissenting brethren in his "Irenicum," preached in St. Paul's Cathedral before the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London on the first day of Easter term, 1680, and thought it a fitting occasion to select for his text "The Mischiefs of Separation," in which he charged upon the non-conformists all the blame of separation from the church and all the mischiefs which had arisen from it.

This unlooked for attack, in which those who had been recently called "our dissenting brethren," were now represented as schismatics, as enemies to peace, and as dangerous to the church, roused the spirit of the more temperate of the non-conformists, and was repelled by pamphlets from Howe, Owen, Baxter, and others. The Dean, nothing daunted, in the following year took up his opponents in a quarto volume, entitled "Unreasonableness of Separation," and it was in answer to a portion of this work that Clarkson entered the controversy with "No Evidence for Diocesan Churches in Primitive

Times." This treatise provoked a reply from Dr. Henry Maurice, and the Doctor was in turn answered by Clarkson, but he laid by the manuscript for many months till 1682, when the importunity of some, and the misrepresentations of others, forced him to publish it. It appeared as an anonymous pamphlet with the title "Diocesan Churches not yet Discovered in Primitive Times."

Although he did not publish anything more on this subject, he prosecuted it in his study, and left behind him two papers, one on "Primitive Episcopacy" and another on "The Use of Liturgies."

The first of these papers was published two years after his death, and contains a great mass of additional evidence in favor of Congregational Episcopacy. Nath. Ponder, the stationer, furnished its preface, in which he says:

"Though a preface be a civility due to the following tract, the name of the author is reckoned much more significant than any preface. Those that knew the calmness of his disposition, and his sincere desire of contributing all that he could to the composure of those unhappy differences that have so long troubled the Christian Church, will think this work very suitable to his design; and

being so esteemed by divers judicious persons of his acquaintance, those in whose hands his papers are, have been prevailed with to send it abroad into the world with this assurance, that it is his whose name it bears."

This treatise will be found to justify the judgment of his friends. Dr. Maurice thought it of sufficient importance, though a posthumous publication, to reply to it in an elaborate work which appeared in 1691.

"Whatever may be thought," writes the Rev. John Blackburn, "of the comparative learning and acuteness of the two disputants, there can be no comparison between them as to their tone and temper. Clarkson always maintains the bearing of a scholar and a Christian, whilst Maurice descends to false accusations and vulgar personalities."

The other paper, on the "Use of Liturgies," came under the review of Dean Comber, the precentor of York. It did not appear in print until a year after the first essay was published, and was the occasion of a severe criticism from the Dean. He did not hesitate, says De Foe, the author of "Robinson Crusoe," to heap reproaches on the deceased author, and rummaged antiquity to prove

that Liturgies were in use in the Primitive Church, which was never denied by Clarkson. He contended only against their imposition as terms of communion.

The part which he had recently taken in the Stillingfleet controversy, and the support he had given to the arguments which Dr. John Owen employed in the same discussion, may be supposed to have brought Clarkson under the notice of the church of which the Doctor was the pastor, who were then looking for an able minister to become the assistant and successor of that eminent divine.

Dr. John Owen is well known to-day by his many and varied works on theological subjects. He ranked then at the head of the non-conforming body. Under the protectorate he had been made Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, and upon the restoration, one of the private chaplains of the King. To a rare amount of theological learning he united personal endowments and accomplishments, such as carry with them an indefinable influence and command respect even from the prejudiced. His appearance once arrested Cromwell's notice, who laying his hand on Owen's shoulder, said, "You are a person I must be acquainted with." "That,"

replied the Doctor, with the courtliness of a cavalier, "will be much more to my advantage than yours."

In July, 1682, Clarkson became this gentleman's colleague, who, in a letter to Lord Charles Fleetwood, wrote that he should "esteem it a great mercy to have so able a supply." The Doctor's complicated infirmities, however, rendered their connexion but brief, as he was called to his reward on the 24th of August, 1683. His funeral sermon was preached by Mr. Clarkson on the Sunday after the interment.

This church was collected soon after the "Black Bartholomew Act," in 1662, by Mr. Joseph Caryl. When a young man he had served as private chaplain to Mrs. Clarkson's grandmother, the Viscountess Grandison. It embraced some of the most prominent Independent families then residing within the city, and derived its principal distinction from the number of able men connected with it at different times, as its pastors, not the least prominent among whom, in after years, was the celebrated Dr. Isaac Watts.

Three short years of incumbency brought the life and labors of Clarkson to a close. His death was unexpected, and his will which is singularly brief

and hurried, was only executed the day before he died. Two of the witnesses to this instrument, Henry Sampson and Edward Hulse were educated at Cambridge. They were ejected by the Act of Uniformity, and applying themselves to the study of medicine, became eminent physicians in the City of London. With such men in attendance we may be sure Clarkson did not lack skilful advice or godly fellowship in his dying chamber. Being entirely resigned to the Divine will he peacefully departed this life on the 14th of June, 1686, at the age of 64.

Mr. Clarkson's character is thus drawn by Dr. Bates, who preached the funeral sermon: "He was a man of sincere godliness and true holiness, which is the divine part of a minister, without which all other accomplishments are not likely to be effectual for the great end of the ministry, that is, to translate sinners from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of God's dear Son. That he might be thoroughly furnished for his work he diligently improved his time for the acquisition of knowledge; being very sensible (to use his own words) that 'the blood of the soul runs out in wasted time.' These noble qualities led him to conceal his name from the public in some excellent publications, which dis-

covered his learning and judgment. He was well satisfied to serve the church and illustrate the truth, while he remained in his beloved secrecy. His temper was calm, not ruffled with passions, but gentle and kind; and in his controversial writings he displayed an equal tenor of mind. In his conversation a comely gravity mixed with an innocent cheerfulness, attracted universal respect and love. In the discharge of his sacred work, his intellectual abilities and holy affections were very evident. He discovered a striking solemnity in prayer, and his preaching was very instructive and persuasive. The matter of his sermons was always judiciously derived from his text, and remarkable for depth and clearness. In his language there was neither a rude neglect nor gaudy display of eloquence. Whilst opportunity continued, with alacrity and diligence and constant resolution, he served his blessed Master, till a languishing distemper extinguished the lamp of life and removed him to a more noble employment in heaven."

Baxter, Ridgely, Howe and Mead, all bear their several testimonies to Clarkson's worth and abilities. Baxter speaks of him as a "divine of extraordinary worth for solid judgment, healing moderate princi-

ples, acquaintance with the fathers, great ministerial abilities, and a godly upright life."

Birch, in his life of Tillotson, refers to the singular respect that the Archbishop entertained for him, and De Foe thought that the reasoning in two of Clarkson's works, though often attacked, had never been refuted.

Even at the present day, Clarkson's name is always found enumerated among the chief literary champions of non-conformity and so well established is his reputation that within a few years, or nearly two centuries from the date of their publication, a society in London reprints his select works in two editions, and in their preface say, "these works have too long shared in the concealment of their venerated and modest author, but, which it is believed, are now destined to take the important place which belongs to them in the several controversies to which they respectively relate, as they are unquestionably written with acuteness and learning, moderation and charity."

At the time of his death, Mr. Clarkson was living in the Parish of St. Dunstan, Stepney. Nine years previously, in 1677, his name occurs as a contributor to the poor of Bethnal Green, which was formerly

part of the same Parish of Stepney. It is not unlikely, therefore, that during the whole of this period he continued to reside in the same vicinity, the Tower district.

This gift to the poor of Bethnal Green, of which he was one of twelve contributors, amounted to £332 2 10, and it appears as the result of an inquiry instituted by the government in 1786-8, that this sum was at that time invested in lands yielding an annual revenue of £36 11 2.

A portrait of Clarkson by Mrs. Mary Beale, an eminent portrait painter of that age and pupil of Sir Peter Lely, is still in the possession of the family, and a fine print by White, of the same picture, is prefixed to the volume of sermons in folio. He is here represented with a round handsome face, with an ample forehead and long flowing hair. An expression of cheerfulness and good humor confirm what his writings suggest, that he was blessed with great equanimity of temper and a natural gaiety of manners that contributed much to his own happiness and to the pleasure of those who were privileged to be connected with him.

He had six children, three sons and three daughters, but the order of their births is not known.

It is also possible there may have been other issue.

Two of the sons were Matthew and Robert. The former will be the subject of another section, and of the latter, to whom his father bequeathed by his will, "all his books if he would prove a scholar," nothing has been ascertained.

In "The Life and Errors of John Dunton," there occurs the following reference to another son, in Dublin, in a letter written by Dunton, addressed "to an honorable lady," and dated London, April 20, 1699:

"My next visit was to the Lady Sands, Mr. Thwaite's sister. The Lady Sands' husband is Mr. Clarkson, son to Mr. David Clarkson, the late Non-conformist, so deservedly famous for his learned works. This gentleman I was formerly acquainted with, and if I do not mistake, he¹ was in New England in that very year that I rambled thither; but, though we had been old acquaintance, I missed him in this visit, and never had the happiness to see him whilst I was in Ireland."

¹The person here referred to, was not Mr. Clarkson, of Dublin, but his brother, Matthew, later, the Secretary of the Province of New York.

Dunton further writes :

“My Lady Sands is a person of great piety and extraordinary sense; and I found in those few minutes I had the honor to enjoy her company, that her husband is as happy in a tender, discreet and obliging wife, as any gentleman in the kingdom of Ireland. In this visit I had the favor of some discourse with her eldest daughter, whose beauty, virtue and good humor, are equal to that of the best ladies in Dublin.”

In alluding to Mr. Thwaite, the brother of Lady Sands, Dunton says :

“He may, without compliment, be called an accomplished person; he can do almost everything, and it is hard to say what he does with the greatest grace. And, as to wit, I was really afraid to hold any argument with him, for I found he could say what he would and prove what he said; his whole life has been so unblemished, even Envy herself cannot fix a blot upon him.”

The Rev. David Clarkson had also three daughters, Rebecca, Gertrude and Katharine.

The eldest daughter, Rebecca, was married to a Mr. Combe. She died on the 20th of November, 1744, aged seventy-nine, and was buried in Bunhill-

fields Cemetery. The two younger daughters remained unmarried. Gertrude died in London, April 23, 1701. Her pastor, Dr. Ridgley, preached her funeral sermon, which he also published and inscribed to Mrs. Elizabeth Clarkson, the venerable relict of Mr. Clarkson, who thus survived her husband at least fifteen years, but the time of her decease is not known. The third daughter, Katharine, died at Hitchin, Herts, January 11, 1757, aged eighty-four years.

In the Rev. Samuel James' "Collections of Remarkable Experiences," there are two papers which Mrs. Combe and her sister Gertrude gave in of their religious convictions upon uniting themselves with the Independent Church assembling at the Three Cranes Meeting-house, Fruiterers Alley, Upper Thames Street, then under the pastoral care of the Rev. Thomas Gouge and Dr. Thomas Ridgley. In one of these papers one of the daughters says, "I had the advantage and invaluable blessing of a religious education, both my parents being eminent for wisdom and grace," and in the manuscript of the other, we read, "My education has been very strict. The constant instruction and examples of my parents had so early an influence

that it is hard to tell which was my first awakening."

Mr. Clarkson's first appearance as an author was in the publication of a sermon which he preached at one of the Cripplegate Morning Exercises. Its title is "What Christians must do that the influences of the ordinances may abide upon them."

His next publication was another Morning Exercise Sermon on the thesis, "The Doctrine of Justification is dangerously corrupted in the Romish Church."

This was followed by a quarto volume on the "Practical Divinity of the Papists, discovered to be destructive of Christianity and men's souls."

His next publications related to the Episcopal and Liturgical controversy, a treatise entitled, "No Evidence for Diocesan Churches," and another, under the title, "Diocesan Churches not yet discovered in Primitive Times."

His sermon on the death of Owen was also published.

We find also allusions to anonymous tracts, of which he was the author, but it is probable that these are irrecoverably lost.

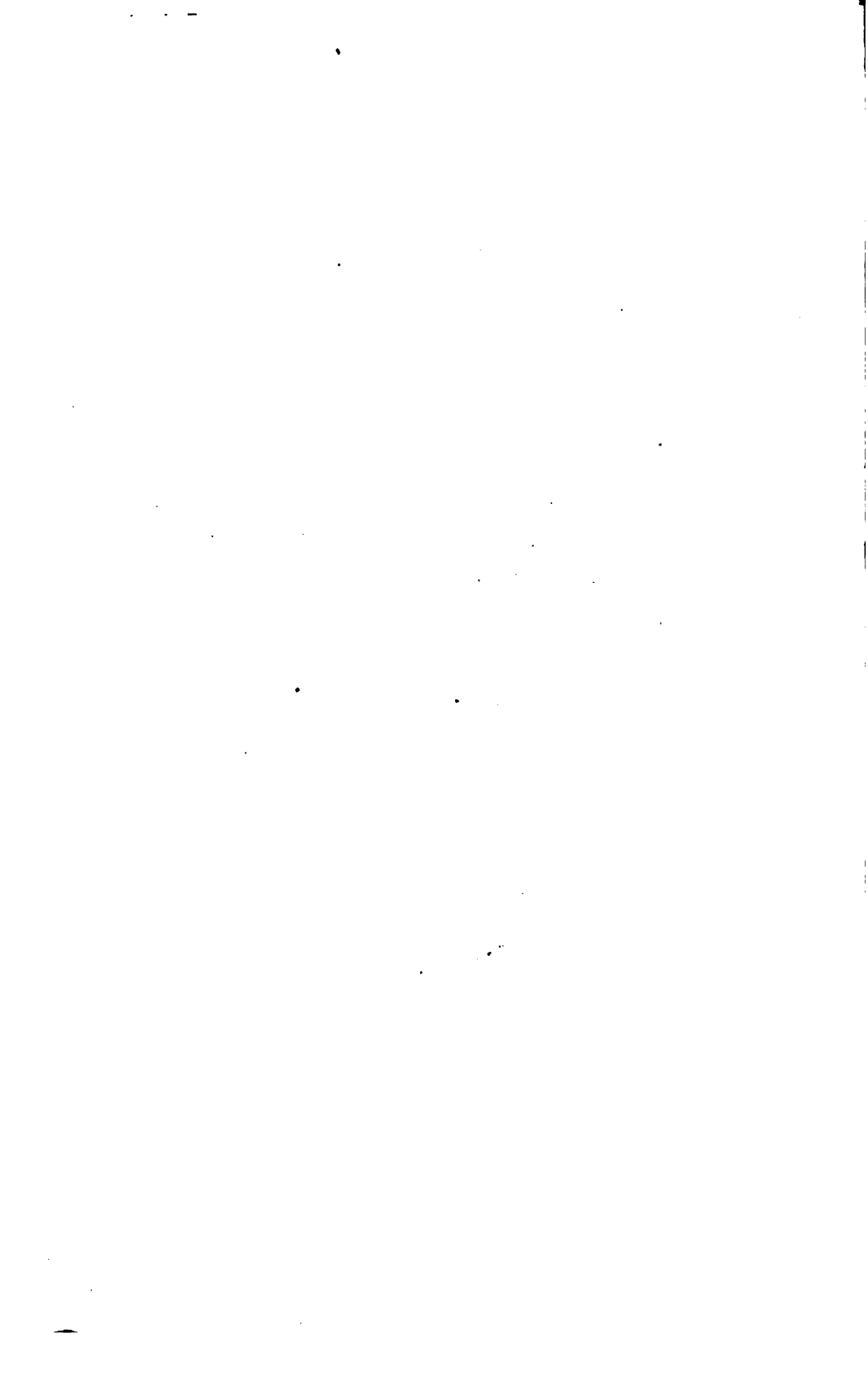
His posthumous works were "Primitive Episcopacy stated and cleared from the Holy Scriptures and ancient records," and one on the "Use of Liturgies," a "Discourse on the saving grace of God," and a large folio volume of sermons of more than a thousand pages.



M. Clarkson

ARM AND SIGNATURE COPIED FROM A CONVEYANCE

EXECUTED BY MATTHEW CLARKSON, TREASURER 1847-54





M. Clarkson

ARMS AND SIGNATURE COPIED FROM A CONVEYANCE

EXECUTED BY MATTHEW CLARKSON, FEBRUARY 13-1791.





SECTION III.

MATTHEW CLARKSON.

The year preceding the death of the Rev. David Clarkson will ever be remembered by the non-conformists as one of the saddest in their history. Never, not even under the tyranny of Laud, had the condition of the Puritans been so deplorable. James II., thoroughly honest in his own convictions, was yet stupidly blind to the convictions of others. He was a far better man than his brother, but much inferior to him in intellectual power. A court wit has said that "Charles *could* see things if he *would*; James *would* see them if he *could*."

Matthew, a son of the Rev. David Clarkson, was the immediate ancestor of the Clarksons of New York. He was then a young man, and is said to

have been highly educated. The reasons which influenced him to leave England have never been understood, but, in the absence of any known facts, it has been thought that he may have become enlisted in the cause of the unfortunate Monmouth, and after the disastrous rout at Sedgemoor, have fled to the colonies to escape falling into the hands of Jeffreys. No less than thirty of these malcontents took passage in the vessel which brought over Dunton, the bookseller.

Clarkson was possessed of an ardent and impulsive nature, and there is at least one incident in his history which shows, that the zeal, which he at times manifested, was not always according to knowledge. We may be sure he had early learned to detest Popery, and it would be no wonder if he felt an implacable resentment against a Sovereign who hated the very name of Puritan. A cause which had for its object the removal of such a bigot from the throne, would make strong appeals to one of his disposition.

A brother of his father's colleague in the ministry, a Colonel Owen, had been accused of complicity in the late plot, and through him an acquaintance had probably been formed with Ferguson, a frequent

guest at the Colonel's house, and one of the chief conspirators. With De Foe, another partisan, Clarkson was on still more intimate terms, and it is likely that many of his associates were among the dissenters who joined the recusant army.

It is also a noteworthy coincidence that the battle of Sedgemoor, which was fought in the summer of 1685, preceded by only a few months the first known record of his being in New England. He was then engaged for awhile as a factor, or agent, in New York, but, apparently, made no arrangement to remain, and was on his way back to England in less than sixty days after the proclamation in the Province of the accession of the Prince of Orange. The proclamation was made on the 22d of June, 1689, and in August he sailed in the "Bordeaux Merchant" with Captain Studman.

Such then, in barest outline, is the view which is entertained by some on this subject. It must be remembered, however, that it is purely conjectural, and is only of value as the possible explanation of an event, of the cause of which there is no traditional rumor.

Among the earliest authentic notices we have of Clarkson's first visit to the colonies is his meeting

with William Millborne and Charles Lodwick. The latter is called in the annals of the period his brother-in-law, and the former he had probably seen in London.

There is a letter of Millborne's still extant, dated Boston, February, 1689, and written to his brother Jacob in New York, which is, seemingly, very disparaging to our ancestor. The writer, after alluding to the "venerable respect" which his father entertained for Mr. Clarkson, adds, "a dog of whom should have respect, this I wish, being assured that he was scandalized in several particulars whilst here, but, *Manum de tabula*." How much of this want of respect was due to political hostility, or other causes, it is impossible to say. Millborne is represented as "a noisy anabaptist minister in Boston," and it is not likely that he had either the good opinion or good-will of the person whose character he aspersed, and it is very doubtful how far he deserved either.

On the 10th of August, 1687, the subject of our sketch, being at that time in New York, affixed his signature as a witness to a conveyance of land to his friend Charles Lodwick. This was anterior to the date of the above letter and is the

first memorial we have of Clarkson's residence in America, except the general statement that he was in New England in the winter and spring of 1685-6, which occurs in the "Life and Errors of John Dunton."

Lodwick, after a prosperous career as a merchant in this city and after enjoying some of its highest political honors, being at one time elected to its chief magistracy, returned to England, where he continued to manifest a warm interest in the affairs of the colonies. He died at Camberwell, in Surrey, in which place he passed the later years of his life. His wife Margaret and two daughters survived him. One of the latter, Elizabeth, married George Streatfeild, of an ancient Kentish family, the name of whose nephew, Thomas Streatfeild, will often occur in these pages.

Having arrived in England, Clarkson was again with the family from whom he had been separated four years. In the meantime his father had died. This event, together with the experiences obtained by his late visit to the New World, may have given the direction to his future life. It was not very long after his return, encouraged perhaps by the recommendations of friends, that he preferred a petition to

the King for the office of Secretary of the Province of New York.

The petition reads as follows :

To the King's most Excellent Magestie :

The Humble Petition of Matthew Clarkson :

Most Humbly Sheweth,

That whereas your Petitioner is credibly informed the office of Secretary of the Province of New York in America is now vacant, and whereas hee appeares, per the annexed certificate to bee esteemed capable of the said employment,

Your Petitioner therefore most humbly prays your sacred Magestie would in your Princeley Bounty bestow on him the said office which hee shall indeavour to discharge with faithfullness and diligence,

And your Petitioner shall ever pray, etc.

THE CERTIFICATE.

These certify that Matthew Clarkson has lived for severall years in New York as a factor, where hee has behaved himselfe very carefully in his

Business and does well understand the affairs and customes of the said Plantac'on.

DAVID CLARKSON

GERARD VAN NEYTHÜYSE

DAVID KING, JUN'R.

JAMES MEYER

THO. LODWIK

JOHN ROWETT

DANIEL FOE

ROBERT KNIGHT

Of the several names affixed to this paper, one is readily recognised as that of the immortal author of Robinson Crusoe, who subsequently adopted the French particle; another doubtless represents a relative of the petitioner, perhaps an older brother, whose wife was the Dowager Lady Sands, or, Sandys of the Vine; a third, James Meyer, was of a very wealthy East India House, one of whose members, Sir Samuel, was knighted by King William. Lodwik was probably a brother of Charles, for a long time a resident in the colony, and Knight may have been related to a family of that name, who, by double marriages, were connected with the Clarksons of Nottingham.

The petition was referred to the Rt. Hon. the Lords of the Committee for Trade and Plantations, and upon their recommendation, and as a testimony of his respect for the memory of the Rev. David Clarkson, the father of the petitioner, King William caused the following commission to be issued :

COMMISSION OF MATTHEW CLARKSON AS SECRETARY
OF NEW YORK.

William and Mary, by the Grace of God, King and Queen of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland. Defenders of the faith, etc.

To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting. Know Yee, that wee for divers good causes and considerations us thereunto especially moving have erected, created and established and by these presents for us our heirs and successors Do erect, create and establish an office to be executed within our territory and colony of New York in America, which shall forever hereafter be called and knowne by the name of Secretary of New York in America. And we doe hereby alsoe ordayne and declare that the person who shall from time to time be appointed to execute the said office shall have and

enjoy all privileges, fees, preheminencies, rights, profits and advantages, which any other Secretary within any of our plantac'ons or colonyes in America have or ought to enjoy in respect of such his office. And further know yee that wee reposing especiall trust and confidence in the fidelity, prudence and circumspection of our trusty and well-beloved Matthew Clarkson, Gentleman, of our especial grace, certaine knowledge and meere moc'on, have given and granted and by these presents do give and grant unto the said Matthew Clarkson the said office or place of Secretary of New York in America and him the said Matthew Clarkson Secretary of New York in America we do name, make, create and ordain by these presents, to Have, Hold, exercise and enjoy the said office of Secretary of New York unto him the said Matthew Clarkson by himself or his sufficient deputy or deputys, during our pleasure and his residence in our said colony, and further wee have given and granted and by these presents Doo give and grant unto the said Matthew Clarkson all and singular such and the like fees, rights, powers, preheminencies, perquisites, profitts and advantages for and in respect of the execuc'on of the said office as any other of our Secry'es in any of our

plantac'ons or colonyes in America aforesaid now doe or at any time or times heretofore have of right taken, received or enjoyed for the exercise of their said respective offices. To have, receive, perceive, and enjoy the same unto the said Matthew Clarkson or his sufficient deputy or deputys during his continuance in the said office according to the intent and meaning of these our Letters patent. In Witnesse whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent. Witnesse ourselves at Westminster the sixth day of December in the first year of our reign.

By writt of Privy Seal.

PIGOTT.

During Clarkson's absence in England, affairs in the Province of New York had become in a very unsettled state. The respective adherents of the late and present Sovereigns, stimulated by religious and political dissensions, had ranged themselves into opposite factions, known as the aristocracy and the democracy. It was contended by the one party that the change of government in England in no respect affected the existing condition of things in the Province, while, on the other hand, it was maintained

that the entire government, both at home and abroad, was overthrown by the revolution, and the right to choose their own rulers reverted to the people until the will of the Sovereign should be known.

The democracy was led by Leisler, a man of great energy and determination of character, and upon him was conferred by his friends the power and authority of Commander-in-chief.

Presuming on his doubtful commission, he issued warrants for the arrest of Nicholas Bayard, Stephanus Van Cortlandt, and others, on the charge of high misdemeanors against His Majesty's authority, and ordered them thrown into prison.

The popular agitation increased; the city was divided against itself; rumors of every kind were abroad, and during this state of confusion and tumult it was decided to send out a new Governor to the Province in the person of Colonel Henry Sloughter. A frigate and three smaller vessels were assigned to convey him, with two companies of soldiers, from Spithead to New York. Clarkson was to accompany the expedition.

On the first day of December, 1690, the fleet set sail from the Isle of Wight. On board the frigate,

the "Archangel," was the Governor, and in company were the "Beaver," the "Canterbury," and the store-ship "John and James." Ingoldsby and Clarkson embarked in the "Beaver." After keeping together for some days the ships separated at sea, and the first to arrive in New York was the "Beaver," on the 28th of January, 1691.

Complaints were at once preferred against Leisler, and Ingoldsby without waiting for the arrival of the Governor, sent messengers with instructions to demand the surrender of the fort. It was a crushing blow to the usurper to learn from the messengers that the King had not included him in the new Council, and upon the specious pretence that Ingoldsby was only the second in command and was without any credentials of his authority, his summons received no attention. Matthew Clarkson, the royal Secretary of New York, was now instructed by the Councillors to write to the government of Connecticut and give them an account of affairs in the Province, soliciting their advice. This letter, which was dated March 4, 1691, was the first official act of the Secretary.

In reply, the Governor and Council of Connecticut advised the New York Councillors, "to avoid contest

with Captain Leisler, and rather to bear anything tolerable and redressible, till his Excellency's arrival."

Affairs, however, were rapidly approaching a crisis, and it was deemed expedient to order the militia from the neighboring towns. Clarkson accordingly wrote the following letter addressed to the people of Flatbush :

"To the Inhabitants of flack-bos.

"March 13, 1691.

"Whereas divers of y^e Inhabitants of Long Island and other parts of the Province have already shown their willingness to serve . their Ma^{ties} in coming hither to the assistance of their forces. I am directed by the Gent^{ln} of the Council to acquaint you y it would be very acceptable to them and shall be so represented to his Excellency, Coll. Sloughter, y^t you exprest y^r zeal for their Maj^{ties} service as y^r neighbors have done."

Leisler, with "the malice of a choleric man," would not be restrained. He ordered Ingoldsby instantly to disband his forces and allowed him two hours for his decision. A very temperate reply

was returned that the councillors, officers and soldiers were commissioned by King William and wished to preserve the peace, and that those who should attack them would be public enemies to the Crown of England. Scarcely a quarter of an hour after he received the message of the Council, Leisler, with his own hand, fired one of the guns of the fort at the King's troops as they stood on parade. This was followed by other shots at the house where they were lodged and by volleys of musketry. Balls were also heated in the furnace to throw into the town.

At this critical moment it was reported that the "Archangel" was coming up the bay. The frigate had been nearly lost on the rocks at Bermuda, where she was detained three weeks, and six weeks more elapsed before her arrival at Sandy Hook.

Sloughter immediately landed, and being informed of the state of affairs, though eleven o'clock at night, he proceeded to the City Hall, caused the bell to be rung, and summoning his Council, forthwith sent three several demands for the surrender of the fort, the enlargement of Bayard and others, and the attendance of Leisler, all of which were refused.

Early the next morning, finding it expedient to

abandon the fort, Leisler was arrested, and being accused of actual rebellion, was ordered to be committed to the guard-house, where his son-in-law, Millborne, his private secretary, was already confined. In a few days a special court was organized for their trial, in which, after some delay, judgment was finally given adverse to the prisoners and they were condemned to death for treason and murder. The sentence was speedily carried out, and thus ended one of the most eventful dramas ever enacted within the city of New York.

Yet his execution was a political blunder. It made him, says Brodhead, a martyr instead of a convict, and gave rise to popular divisions, which for a long time injured the Province.

Fifteen weeks had elapsed since Clarkson landed from the "Beaver." As an anti-Leislerian he necessarily shared in all the vicissitudes of fortune which subsequently overtook his party, at one time receiving government patents for large tracts of land, and at another denied the perquisites of his office and even threatened, as under the administration of Bellomont, with ejection from the very office itself.

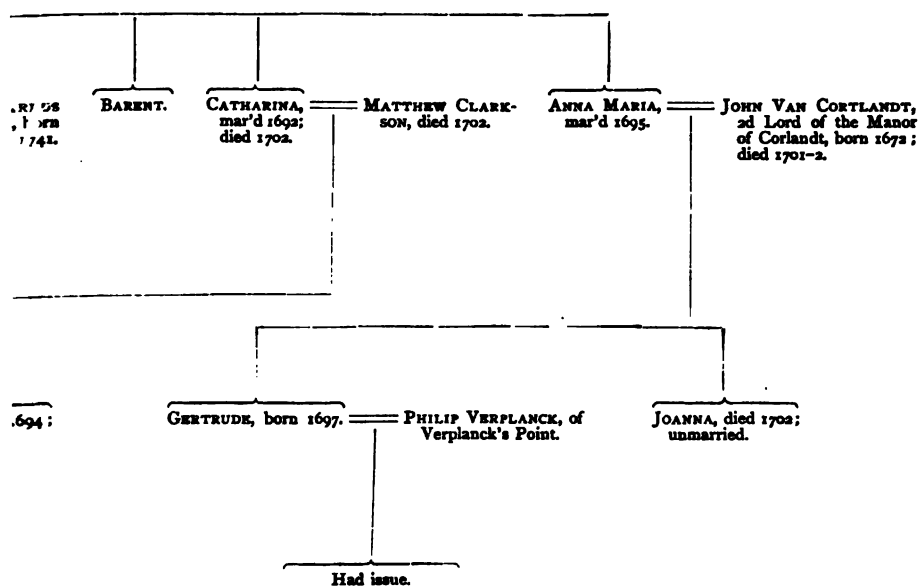
In connection with his position as Secretary, he was the Clerk of the Council, Register and Exami-

ner of the Court of Chancery, Clerk of the Supreme Court of Judicature, and Registrar of the Prerogative Court. The office was not a very lucrative one. Thirty pounds were allowed, as the schedule quaintly reads, for pen, ink and paper, but this sum was evidently intended to cover the item of stationery only. There was no salary connected with it, the emoluments were derived wholly from fees, and these at times were too small, as we learn from his petition to the Governor, to defray even the actual expenditures.

On the 19th of January, 1692, Matthew Clarkson was married to Catharina, a daughter of the Hon. Goosen Gerritse Van Schaick, of Albany.

FAMILY OF VAN SCHAICK.

Mr. Van Schaick was one of the earliest residents at Fort Orange and Beverwyck, and was a man of influence and high standing among his neighbors. By profession he was a brewer and trader. After a good deal of solicitation, he accepted the office of magistrate, or, "Gerechts persoon." In 1675 he purchased Harmen Rutgers' brewery, on the Ex-



change block, in company with Pieter Lassingh, and became joint owner with Philip Pieterse Schuyler of the site of the present town of Waterford.

Mr. Van Schaick was twice married. His first wife, Gerritje, was a daughter of Brandt Peelen van Nieukerke, Schepen, who came to Fort Orange in 1630. By this marriage there were four children, Geertje Goosen, Gerrit Goosen, Sybrant Goosen, and Anthony Goosen.

Geertje Goosen married (first) Hendrick Coster and had issue, and (second) Johannes Gerritse Lansing, in 1678, and had issue.

Gerrit Goosen, the next child, was born in 1650, and married, in 1678, Alida, a daughter of Brant Arent van Slechtenhorst, of Nieukerke, in Guilderland. Gerrit died November 11, 1679, without issue, and his widow married Pieter Davitse Schuyler, a nephew of Philip Pieterse Schuyler, and had issue.

Sybrant Goosen, the third child, was born in 1653, and married Elizabeth, a daughter of Teunis Cornelise Van der Poel, and had issue. After the death of Sybrant, his widow

married, in 1686, Bennony Van Corlaer, and had issue.

Anthony Goosen, the youngest child, was born in 1655, and married Maria Van der Poel, a sister of Sybrant's first wife, and had issue.

On the 30th of July, 1657, Goosen Gerritse Van Schaick married again. His second wife was Annetje Lievens, a daughter of Lievens Janssen. At this time Mr. Van Schaick executed an instrument by which he reserved from his estate six thousand guilders for his four eldest children by his first wife. In this document his name appears simply as Goosen Gerritsen. This mode of nomenclature was not unusual among the early Dutch settlers, and prevailed until the surrender of the Province to the English.

By his later marriage Mr. Van Schaick had eight children, Gerritje, Engeltje, Levinus, Cornelis, Margrieta, Barent, Catharina, and Anna Maria.

Gerritje, the eldest child, was born in 1658, and was married on the 17th of January, 1674, to Andries Drayer, a Rear-

Admiral in the Danish Navy, and Commandant of Willemstadt (Albany). Their daughter, Anna Dorothea, married the Rev. Thomas Barclay, and they were the ancestors of the Barclays of New York.

Engeltje was born in 1659, and married Colonel Peter Schuyler, one of ten children of Philip Pieterse Schuyler (who came from Amsterdam in 1650) by his wife Margritta Van Slechtenhorst, whose sister, Alida, had married Gerrit Goosen Van Schaick, a half-brother of the Colonel's wife. Peter inherited the talents and virtues of his parents, and for many years was one of the most prominent men in the Province. His sister, Gertrude, was the wife of Stephanus Van Cortlandt, of the Upper Manor, and another sister, Alida, the widow of the Rev. Nicholas Van Rensselaer, a son of the first patroon, was the wife of Robert Livingston, who emigrated to America in 1674. A daughter of Colonel Schuyler, Margaret, married Mr. Livingston's nephew, Robert Livingston, Jr., and General Philip Schuyler, one of the heroes of the Revolution, was a grandson

of the Colonel's brother, John Schuyler. Colonel Peter Schuyler's second wife was Maria Van Rensselaer, a daughter of Jeremias, and grand-daughter of Killian, the first patroon.

Levinus was born in 1661. His name was probably adopted from the surname of his mother. He resided for some time in Holland.

Cornelis was born in 1663, and died young.

Margrieta was born in 1665, and married on the 25th of August, 1705, the Rev. Bernardus Freeman, whose only child married her first cousin, David, son of Matthew Clarkson, the subject of this memoir.

Barent was born in 1668, and died young.

Catharina married the subject of this memoir.

Anna Maria, married June 20, 1695, John, son of the Hon. Stephanus Van Cortlandt, named above. Gertrude, their only surviving child and heiress, married Philip Verplanck.

The names of all, except the last two, of these several children of Mr. Van Schaick, may be found in a will made by him in 1668, on the occasion of his departure for Holland. The two younger children are mentioned with others in the will of their mother.

Mr. Clarkson, by his marriage with Miss Van Schaick, became connected with most of the prominent families in the Province.

The wedding ceremony took place in all probability at the Dutch Chapel in the fort. It was conducted, we know, according to the rites of that denomination, and the officiating clergyman must have been the Rev. Henricus Selyns.

In the spring of 1697, Clarkson obtained a patent for a parcel of land in Fletcher street, for which he was to pay, on the Feast day of the Annunciation of our blessed Virgin Mary, the yearly rent of one pepper corn. This plot is described as being situated in a certain street which leads from that part of Queen street which is opposite to Maiden Lane. In dimensions it was fifty feet in length on Fletcher street, fifty feet in the rear, eighty-five feet on the north side, and on the south side eighty-three feet.

Upon this property the Secretary built a "brick mansion" for his residence, having for his neighbor Johannes de Peyster on the one side, nearer Queen street, and on the other, Thomas Pearsall.

The last ten years of the seventeenth century witnessed great changes in New York. The old stockade in Wall street, which had been the northern boundary of the city, was removed, and its limits were now extended to that very ancient road known in the days of the Dutch as the Maagde Paatje, or the Maiden's Path.

New York, at this period, contained about 750 houses and a population of a little over 5,000, of which number some 700 were blacks, including slaves and freedmen.

The buildings were generally of brick, and were painted in different colors. Some were chequered and glazed, and are described by Mrs. Knight, an English lady, as presenting a very attractive appearance. The same lady remarks that in their interior arrangements they were neat even to admiration. There were no sidewalks, and the streets were paved with cobble stones to the width of ten feet from the front of the houses on either side, the middle space serving as a gutter for the refuse water.

In 1697 the first attempt was made to light the streets. This was done by hanging out a lantern and candle upon the end of a pole from the window of every seventh house on nights when there was no moon, or, as the ordinance quaintly expresses it, in the dark time of the moon. A night watch was also established, to be composed of four good and honest inhabitants, whose duty it was to watch from nine in the evening till break of day. They were to go on their rounds, each with a bell, and proclaim the state of the weather and the hour of the night.

The residence and office of Mr. Clarkson may be said to have been at the extreme limits of the town. The former, as we have seen, was near the intersection of the present Pearl street and Maiden lane; the latter was in Fort William Henry, not far from the open space now called the Bowling Green.

It would be impossible, in the space allotted to this sketch, to follow in detail Mr. Clarkson's public career. During the administration of Sloughter and his successor, the Secretary was permitted to exercise and enjoy all the privileges and emoluments conferred upon him by both law and custom. In his official capacity he was often present at the Council

Board, and generally attended the Governor in his conferences with the neighboring tribes of Indians. These meetings were frequently held at Albany and other frontier towns, to reach which was neither pleasant nor easy, indeed, not always safe. In all the various trusts in which he was engaged, he appears to have acquitted himself with that degree of ability and integrity that gained for him the support of several succeeding administrations.

In addition to his public duties, he conducted on his own account a large and lucrative trade with both England and the Azores. From Fayal he received consignments of spirits and wines, and from London, iron, copper and nails, in exchange for sundry kinds of skins and furs. He was also interested in several land patents with Caleb Heathcote, Cornelius de Peyster, Lancaster Syms, and others. These lands were located in the counties of Westchester and Ulster, and comprised thousands of acres. Those in Westchester were known as the west, middle, and east patents.

It was not until the accession of the Earl of Bellomont, as Governor, that the interests of Clarkson and his party suffered any change. Bellomont, on his arrival, attached himself at once to the

democracy, with whom he was a great favorite, having interested himself in England in the reversal of the attainder against Leisler.

An unfortunate incident occurred about this time, which served as a pretext to the Earl to complain to the Home Government of the Secretary's conduct, and to request his dismissal from office. The offense seems to have been that he struck Mr. Parmiter, the naval officer, upon what provocation is not stated, within the precincts of the Governor's residence. This complaint was followed by the further statement that he was totally unfit for the position he occupied.

In his eagerness to control the office, the Earl, in a subsequent letter, which he sent to the Home Government, wrote, that, in his judgment, "*there was not a single man in the Province competent to discharge the duties of the Secretaryship.*" The truth is, he desired the place for George Tollet, but the Board of Trade would not appoint him. Failing in his effort to serve his friend, and in the meantime discovering the true character of the naval officer, who had been convicted as a forger in Bristol, the Earl allowed Mr. Clarkson, without further opposition, to retain his principal office,

though he still denied him the emoluments and perquisites which belonged to it. Such action on the part of the Governor could only be defended by that most intolerant of all propositions, that might makes right.

In 1698 Clarkson was chosen one of the vestry of Trinity Church. On the 7th of April, 1702, he was again elected, and at the meeting of that body held on the 6th of August following, when his death was announced, it was stated that he had relinquished, in favor of the corporation of the church, an interest he had in a lease as one of the tenants of the King's farm. A pew, which he had purchased in the first edifice, has remained an inheritance in his family ever since.

The church was originally a small square building, and, as was remarked by an early writer, stood very pleasantly upon the banks of the Hudson. Previous to the completion of this structure in 1697, he must have attended the Dutch Chapel in the Fort, which continued to be for a long time the only place of worship in the city, and the church¹ in Garden street, which was opened in 1693. Several of his

¹ This building was on the north side of the street now known as Exchange Place, between Broad and William streets.

children were christened in this latter church, and the silver baptismal basin in use at that time is still preserved, and at present is in the custody of the congregation occupying the building on the south-west corner of Fifth avenue and Twenty-first street.

The death of Bellomont, in the spring of 1701, was the occasion of renewed troubles in the Province. Lieut.-Gov. Nanfan, who temporarily succeeded to his authority, was as zealous a Leislerian as the Earl; he caused the arrest of Bayard for treason, outlawed Philip French and Wenham, and removed Livingston from the Council. When Clarkson was sent for to affix the seal of the Province to some arbitrary acts which had been passed by the Governor (a thing never before done except when the acts were engrossed in order to be transmitted to England) and delayed coming, he was imprisoned, and was released only in consequence of the timely arrival of the new Governor and the Attorney-General.

Upon the accession of Lord Cornbury, Bayard was set at liberty and promoted to honor, and Clarkson was restored to his former career of prosperity. His name was placed fourth on a list of Freeholders, "fit to supply vacancies" in the Governor's Council,

taking precedence of many of the oldest and wealthiest inhabitants of the colony.

The Leisler party again fell into disgrace, and Atwood, the Chief Justice, was forced to leave the country.

Some time had elapsed since Clarkson had been permitted to enjoy the revenues of the several offices to which he was entitled by his patent as Secretary, and from which the late administration, influenced by party zeal, had ejected him. After this he sought from a friendly government a redress of these wrongs, but he did not live to receive an answer to his petition.

He and his wife both fell victims to an epidemic, supposed to have been the yellow fever, which suddenly appeared in New York, and was so fearful in its ravages that nearly every one attacked with it died in a few hours. It was long remembered as "the great sickness." Lord Cornbury and his Council removed to Jamaica, on Long Island, to escape the infection, where tradition asserts that Clarkson and his wife died and were buried. The exact date of Mrs. Clarkson's death is not known. Her husband survived her, it is said, a few days only, and died July 20, 1702.

In an Inventory of the Estate the following items occur in a list of sundry articles of furniture, etc. :

One watch.

Two silver handled swords.

One mourning sword.

One Pistoll.

Two Guns.

One picture.

Seven pictures.

Five small do. *with glass on his coat of arms.*

Nine books, in folio,

Fifty books, in 4to and small volumes.

Four old maps

One copy book of letters.

One bag sealed up with papers.

One Silver Server

One tankard.

One great cup with handles.

One cupp.

Two Porringers

One Silver Tobacco Box

Two Salt Sellers.

Eight Silver Forks

Eighteen Silver Spoons

Mr. Clarkson had five children, Elizabeth, David, Levinus, Matthew, and Anna, all of whom survived him, except his eldest daughter, Elizabeth.

Elizabeth was baptized January 8, 1693, and died in infancy.

David was baptized August 19, 1694; married Ann Margaret Freeman, January 25, 1724, and died April 7, 1751.

Levinus was baptized September 6, 1696, and died in Holland, unmarried, October 6, 1769.

Matthew was baptized April 9, 1699; married Cornelia de Peyster, June 1, 1718, and died in 1739.

Anna died in Holland, unmarried, August 19, 1779.



SECTION IV.

DAVID CLARKSON.

It has been said that there are men who exercise an important influence within a limited sphere, in a thousand nameless ways, it may be without being distinctly aware of it. Events may call them to important public stations, and connect them with the history of their time, but they remain precisely the same men. Vanity cannot unsettle their estimate of themselves; ambition cannot mislead them. They possess the imperishable power of character, wisdom, and faithful diligence. It is of a man like these that some notices are here offered.

David Clarkson was born in the city of New York, and on the 19th of August, 1694, was baptized in the old Dutch church in Garden street. His

father, Matthew Clarkson, for twelve years Secretary of the Province, was still an incumbent of that office at the time of his death. His mother, Catharina Van Schaick, as the name indicates, belonged to that "grave, temperate, firm, persevering race, who brought with them the industry, the economy, the simplicity, the integrity, and the bravery of their Dutch ancestors, and with those virtues they also imported," says Chancellor Kent, "the purity of the Protestant faith."

When scarcely eight years of age, David was left an orphan, and with his younger brothers and his only sister, was confided to the care of a maiden aunt, Margrieta Van Schaick. This lady appears to have inherited the character of her mother, who was distinguished for her vigorous intellect and great self-reliance. Miss Van Schaick was also a person of no little enterprise. She engaged in mercantile adventures and conducted a profitable trade with foreign countries. She became very wealthy, and was the owner of considerable real estate in the city.

Of the incidents of Clarkson's childhood and early youth nothing can now be ascertained, though it has been supposed that he was sent when quite young

to his father's relatives in England, and left with them to be educated. There he probably acquired that knowledge which served to nurture those qualities of character which were subsequently exhibited in the Assembly, and which won the esteem and respect of his associates. Nothing is positively known of him, however, until he attains his twenty-fifth year, when we find him residing in London.

In 1718 the three brothers, David, Levinus and Matthew, were established as merchants in London, Amsterdam and New York respectively. At some period within the next succeeding six years David returned to America; the date of his arrival in the Province is not known. Matthew was the only one of his father's family in the city at this time. Levinus and Anna had already gone to reside in Holland.

On the 25th of January, 1724, when he had attained his thirtieth year, David was married to his cousin, Ann Margaret Freeman. This lady was born on the 31st of August, 1706, and was the only child of the Rev. Bernardus Freeman and Margrieta Van Schaick, the early guardian of her new son-in-law, and his maternal aunt.

Mr. Freeman was a native of Gilhuis, in Holland. It is not known where he was educated, but, on the 16th of March, 1700, he was ordained by the Classis of Linge. He was then about forty-two years of age, and having received a call to preside over a congregation at Schenectady, a little village situated in a very pleasant valley twenty-four miles distant from the first castle of the Mohawks, he started from Amsterdam in the same year for his distant field of labor. It was in the summer following his ordination, on the 28th of July, that his ministry commenced at Schenectady. In addition to his duty as resident pastor he was appointed missionary to the neighboring Indians, and, having acquired considerable skill in their language, he translated a great part of the liturgy of the Episcopal Church into that tongue. His wife's nephew, the Rev. Thomas Barclay, says that he was told by Freeman that when he read the liturgy to the Indians they were much affected by it. Though belonging to the Reformed Church of Holland he seems to have been partial to the English Church, and would no doubt have accepted Episcopal ordination if there had been a bishop then in the colony. He was often entreated by Barclay to go over to



REV. P. B. VAN DER LINDE

FROM AN ENGRAVING RECEIVED FROM THE WORK OF WOLFFSCHAELDER

PUBLISHED IN AMSTERDAM 1721

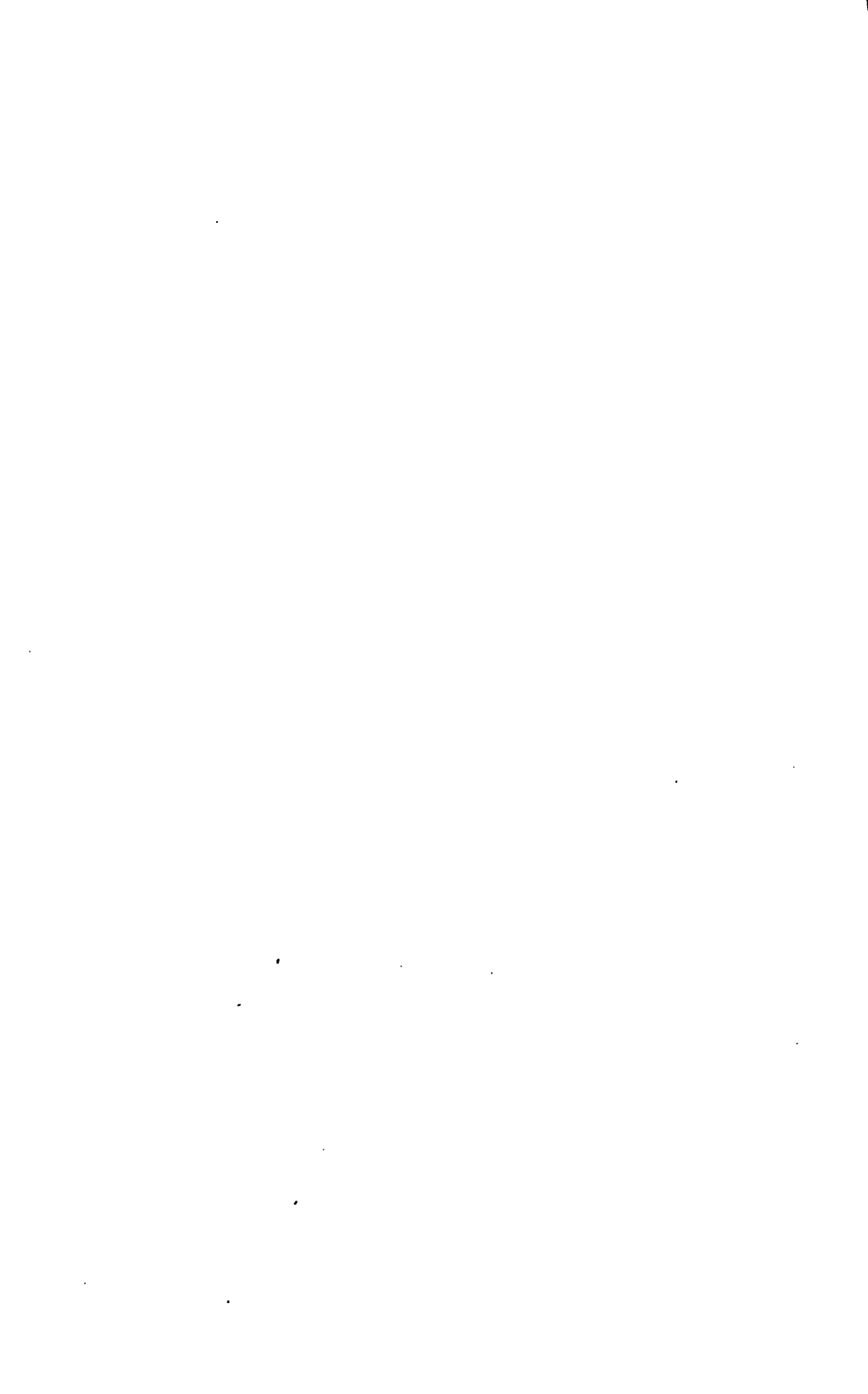
He was a native of Gilhuis, in Holland, where he was educated, but, on the 17th, 1700, he was ordained by the Synod of Amsterdam. He was then about forty-two years of age. Not having received a call to preside over a congregation at Schenectady, a little village in a very pleasant valley, twenty-four miles from Albany, he first preached at the Mohawks, and then at Amsterdam. He resided here for his wife's health. He died in the same place, on the 28th of July, 1711, at the age of fifty. He was buried at Schenectady. His wife, who was a native of Amsterdam, he visited often. He was a very pious man, and his labors among the Indians, and his frequent visits to the Mohawks, were much appreciated by them. He was a very good translator of the Scriptures, and of the Epistles, and of the Gospels, into the Mohawk tongue. His wife, who was a native of Amsterdam, says that he was not by any means a learned man, when he received the call to go to Schenectady. They were much affected by his death. The Reformed Church of Amsterdam, which has been partial to the English, and who no doubt have accepted of Episcopacy, there had been a bishop, who was often content



REV. BERNARDUS FREEMAN.

FROM AN ENGRAVING PREFIXED TO HIS WORK "DE WEEGSCHAAL DER GENADE GODS"

PUB IN AMSTERDAM 1721



England for that purpose, but Freeman disliked the voyage, and his wife would not consent to live among the Indians.

Mr. Barclay's son, Henry, became the Rector of Trinity Church, New York. He was the father of Thomas Barclay, Consul-General of Great Britain, in the United States, a man well known and highly esteemed by his fellow citizens. He was succeeded in his office by his son, Mr. Anthony Barclay, who continued to discharge its duties until a comparatively recent period.

In 1702, the churches of Long Island, having become vacant by the death of their pastor, the consistory applied to Governor Cornbury for permission to call Domine Freeman.

Owing to party divisions and dissensions he did not remove from Schenectady until 1705, when he was installed by proclamation of the Governor in the church at New Utrecht. It was in this same year, on the 25th of August, that his marriage with Miss Van Schaick took place, and in the year following he was appointed, with the Rev. Vincentius Antonides, to visit in turn the different churches at Brooklyn, Flatbush, Flatlands, New Utrecht, Bushwick and Jamaica.

Both pastors resided at Flatbush, and occupied parsonages provided by the congregations of the county. One of these parsonages adjoined the church, but we are not able to say which was the home of Freeman.

The church was erected in 1698, and remained standing nearly a century. It was taken down in 1793. It was a stone edifice, having a steep, four-sided roof, with a small belfry on the top. The pulpit occupied the centre of the west side of the structure, fronting the door, having the elders' bench on the right, and the deacons' bench on the left. The congregation were divided, the men were seated in a continuous pew all along the wall. The rest of the interior of the building was for the accommodation of the women, for whom chairs were provided. These were arranged into seven different rows, and every family had one or more seats in some one of these rows. Each chair was marked on the back by a number, or by the name of the person to whom it belonged. The bell rope hung down in the centre of the church, was easy of access, and often was used to give alarms during the Revolutionary war. The deacons, furnished with a long rod at the end of which was a velvet bag, stood for a few moments in



*RESIDENCE AT FLATBUSH OF REV. BERNARDUS
FREEMAN.*

out of the pulpit, the minister briefly reminded the congregation of their duty to the poor, and then they went to receive the sacrament.

Mr. Moller's is a strong and pleasant voice, and his preaching is new and then awakened to a new activity by a renewed suspense from the beginning to the end.

Mr. Moller is a son-in-law of Freeman, and his wife's grandfather, and out little or account of this, in 1722 years, he commenced the cultivation of a piece of land on a plot of nine acres, which he had purchased on the 21 of October, 1735, from a woman named Deborah Johnson, for £250. This house, which is now well altered, is still standing, being the old house, and the church church on the same road. The property remained in the possession of the family for many years, and was only sold in the last century.

Mrs. Johnson did not live long to enjoy her new property. She died on the 18th of January, 1738, and was buried in the church.

Mr. Johnson died in 1741, having survived his wife for more than 40 years. His place of burial is not known, but it is the custom which then prevailed in the church in regard to its ministers.



*VIEW OF THE HOUSE AT FLATFISH OF REV. FERRIS
FREEMAN.*

front of the pulpit, till the minister briefly reminded the congregation of their duty to the poor, and the bags were then used to receive the alms. In some parts of Holland this custom still prevails, and a drowsy worshipper is now and then awakened to an act of generosity by a little bell suspended from the bottom of the bag.

Towards the close of the ministry of Freeman, and when perhaps he officiated but little on account of his advancing years, he commenced the erection of a dwelling upon a plot of nine acres, which he had purchased on the 3d of October, 1735, from Johannes and Susannah Johnson, for £265. This house, though somewhat altered, is still standing, being the sixth beyond the Dutch church on the main road. The property remained in the possession of his descendants for many years, and was only sold towards the close of the last century.

Mrs. Freeman did not live long to enjoy her new home. She died on the 18th of January, 1738, and her remains were carried to Albany.

Mr. Freeman died in 1741, having survived his wife only three years. His place of burial is not known, but, following the custom which then prevailed in the parish in regard to its min-

isters, his interment was probably made under the church.

He was a man of fine talents, well educated, and possessed of a good store of general literature. In 1721, he published a volume of sermons which bore the title of "De Weegschaale der Genade Gods" (the Balances of God's grace). This was printed in Amsterdam, and was dedicated to his nephew, Levinus Clarkson. Freeman was also the author of "Der Spiegel der Self-Kennis" (the Mirror of Self-Knowledge), a small volume of moral precepts which he had translated from the ancient philosophers.

Soon after her marriage, Mrs. Clarkson was received into full communion in the Dutch Church at Flatbush. Her husband was educated among Non-conformists, and it is, therefore, probable that if he attended Trinity, where he had inherited a pew from his father, the purchase of which he had himself completed on the 24th of June, 1728, both he and his wife often went to the Garden Street Church. In this latter place, the services were held in Dutch, a language very generally spoken at that time, and better understood than English by a majority of the colonists. The pastor was the Rev. Gualterus Du Bois.

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Communion of the Church of England
AS We others Clarkson & late Secretary
of a certain front piers situate and being in
St. Andrew's (St. Andrew's) and did pay part
me and Mr. David Clarkson of the said
of the Consideration money to us and us
for and in Consideration of the Sum of
£500 to us in hand paid by the said David
it unto the said David Clarkson and the
living aforesaid To use and enjoy the same
keeping the same in good repairs at their own
costs and their heirs forever not only to
us or their Removal from the said City to
of the said Church during their absence
of their Corporation to be Governor
eman the present Church Wardens at
of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord
Defender of the Faith &c. Anno Domini

Jo: Robinson
J. Murray



In 1727 David and his younger brother Matthew were admitted as Freemen of the city. The latter had been for some time Captain of the South Ward, and in his company were the names of many of the leading inhabitants.

Of the career of the older brother as a merchant, nothing is now known beyond the fact that it did not cease when he left England, but was continued with profit and advantage in the colony. Besides having a joint interest in other vessels, he had several of his own and carried on a trade principally in European and East Indian goods. His "store-house was over against the Fort."

At that time Governor Montgomerie resided in the Fort. He was by profession a soldier, and by practice a courtier. His immediate predecessor was a son of the celebrated Bishop of Sarum. Mr. Burnet had been a wise and an able officer. His departure from the city was generally regretted, and men of literature and science who had enjoyed his acquaintance and shared in his pleasant society felt the loss of a learned and benevolent gentleman. Soon after his arrival in New York, in 1720, he married a Miss Van Horne, a lady of great personal accomplishments and a descendant of one of the old colonial families

which subsequently became connected with the Clarksons.

The Governors lived in considerable elegance; the parlors in the Fort were handsomely and even expensively furnished, and the library contained some fourteen hundred volumes of standard works. Mr. Valentine says, that servants in livery with state carriages and finely caparisoned horses, swept through the gate in imposing style. Negro musicians, upon the battlements, enlivened the evening with popular airs. Parties and scenes of festivity, suited to the gay and luxurious habits of the aristocracy of that age, were not uncommon, and in short the representatives of majesty maintained their rank with as much show and ceremony as their important position demanded.

In order to add to the beauty and ornament of this part of the city, the vacant space in front of the Fort, which had been used as a parade and for bonfires, was leased, in 1732, to Peter Jay and other residents on the west side of Broadway, to be laid out with walks, and enclosed as a Bowling Green, with trees and shrubbery. The metropolis of the country was to be improved. Broadway was to be extended beyond its junction with Chatham street, its limit at

that time. Old buildings were coming down, new buildings were going up. The little cottage, the pride of the village, had outlived its fame. The stately cock from his lofty perch upon the crow-stepped gable, too proud to veer with every wind that blew, looked down in derision; the sturdy burgher stood aghast, while old Trinity, hidden away among the trees, from her solitary tower was ringing the requiem of departed days.

Opposite Whitehall street, in the block bounded by Whitehall, Pearl, Moore, and State streets, was an open space, known as the "Strand," and used as a market place for country wagons. In 1732 this plot, having grown too valuable for the purpose to which it had been applied, was divided into seven lots and sold at auction on the 6th of May. One of these was purchased by Mr. Clarkson for £156 (\$390). Stephen Delancey bought three, John Moore one, another was taken by Robert Livingston, and the seventh by Anthony Rutgers.

Mr. Clarkson's lot was on the south-east corner of Whitehall and Pearl streets, measuring 23 feet 4 inches on the latter, and 34 feet on the former street. Other property adjoining was subsequently secured, which together furnished the site for a

home for four generations of his descendants. It was occupied by his great-grand-daughter, Mrs. Jonathan Goodhue, and her family, until a comparatively recent period, and was only relinquished when the imperious demands of trade made it no longer desirable as a residence. The ground is now occupied by the building of the Corn Exchange.

In the summer of 1739 Mr. Clarkson lost his brother Matthew. He had been engaged for several years as a merchant in New York, and at the time of his death was about forty years of age. In early life he had married Cornelia, a daughter of his father's neighbor in Queen street, Mr. Johannes de Peyster. The parents of Mr. de Peyster were both born in Haarlem, and both came to America. The family was originally from France, whence they fled to Holland during the religious persecutions of the Protestants by Charles IX. Mr. Clarkson had ten children—Catherine, Matthew, John L., Anna, Matthew, David, Matthew, Levinus, Cornelia, and Gerardus. His widow married Gilbert Tennent, and removed to Philadelphia. By the latter marriage there was no issue. Several of Mr. Clarkson's descendants attained a local renown; one, Matthew Clarkson, became a Mayor of Phila-

delphia, and a Delegate, in 1785, to the Continental Congress. Gerardus Clarkson was very prominent as a physician; another, the Rev. Dr. Howard Crosby, was made, not long since, Chancellor of the University of New York, and the Episcopate of Nebraska is at present filled by the Rev. Dr. Robert Harper Clarkson, a member of the same family.

The death of Matthew must have been a severe trial to his brother David, as Levinus and Anna, the only surviving members of the household, were still in Holland, and were now established there permanently.

In the *New York Gazette* of the 9th of May, 1737, an attempt was made to bring the name of David Clarkson prominently forward as a candidate for the next General Assembly, but, it does not appear that he secured a nomination until two years later, when after a hotly contested election he was returned as a member for the city and county of New York.

At that day, and it so remained until the formation of the State Constitution after the War of Independence, the government of the Province consisted of a Governor who received his appointment from the Crown; the Council, the twelve members of which were chosen either by the King

or the Governor, and the House of Assembly, which was composed of twenty-seven representatives, who were elected by the direct vote of the Freeholders and the Freemen.

The Council and the Assembly both occupied rooms in the City Hall, which formerly stood on the site of the present sub-treasury building in Wall street.

On the morning of the 27th of March, 1739, at eleven o'clock, when the Twenty-second Assembly met at their Chamber, Mr. Clarkson took his seat with the other members, at a long table, at the head of which was the Speaker.

Among those present, were Adolph and Col. Frederick Philipse, Col. Philip Schuyler, of Albany, Col. Henry Beekman, Mr. Gabriel Ludlow, Col. Lewis Morris, of Westchester, and Capt. Robert Livingston, of the Manor on the Hudson. Adolph Philipse was chosen Speaker.

Several cases of small-pox had already occurred in the city, and many of the country members became alarmed and remained at home. Among these were David Jones, of Queens county, Col. Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, and Philip Verplank, of Cortlandt.

When the House had organized, they proceeded

to the Council Chamber and there received the address of Governor Clarke. It began in these words :

“Gentlemen :

“I take this first opportunity to congratulate you on the birth of a Prince of his Majesty’s Royal and Illustrious House, an event propitious to the Protestant world in general, and more especially to all his Majesty’s Dominions, etc.”

Looking back upon that scene, it is not to be supposed that this announcement excited at the time any particular enthusiasm, but it will be remembered that upon the subsequent elevation of this Prince to the Throne, as George III., occurred the most memorable event in American History, the war for the Independence of the Colonies. If a Prince was then given to a Kingdom, a nation was now born to the world.

We do not propose to follow Mr. Clarkson through the many years of his public life, nor to review the political condition of the country during that period. The space allotted to this memoir is too limited for any such undertaking, and without the debates the proceedings of the House could have no interest for the reader.

During all the time that he was in office there was no subject that was so frequently before him, and none that excited more angry discussion, than that of the revenue and its proper disposition. Far back in the history of parties in New York, the early Governors had endeavored to obtain grants of it to the Crown for life, but had always failed. Subsequently they had been occasionally made for a term of years, but latterly the General Assembly pertinaciously insisted that they would vote the salaries only with the annual supplies, and at times, owing to the obstinacy of the administration and the inflexibility of the delegates, supplies were not voted at all. The temper of each new House was no more in unison with the government than that of the one which had just preceded it, and often a session was interrupted by a prorogation of several days for the purpose of affording the members leisure to "reflect seriously" upon the line of their duty. At other times the matter in dispute was referred to the Council, and when the point was conceded, a better state of feeling prevailed.

Governor Clinton was frequently incensed at the stubbornness of his little Parliament, and the fact was not to be concealed that in process of time his

administration became as tempestuous as the element upon which his earlier life had been passed.

The winter of 1740-1 was long memorable, not only for the intensity of the cold which then prevailed, when the snow accumulated to the depth of six feet on the level, causing much suffering to the poor, but it will also have a place in the history of New York as the season in which occurred that singular and popular delusion, no unfit counterpart of the Salem witchcraft, known as the Negro plot.

At this period the city contained, according to Mr. Randall, about ten thousand inhabitants, nearly one-fifth of whom were negro slaves. Both the Dutch and English governments, says the same writer, had systematically encouraged their importation into the colony, and the principal merchants of the city had engaged in the traffic as a prominent branch of trade and source of profit. The most stringent regulations were enacted to keep them in order, and every transgression was severely punished, but their great number, thievish propensities and occasional acts of insubordination, rendered the community sensitive to possible danger, and the pervading feeling of insecurity required only a slight provocation to ripen into a general panic.

A trifling robbery, which occurred in March, 1741, in the house of a merchant, and which was traced to some of the negroes, followed soon after by a series of incendiary fires, in different quarters of the city, created a general alarm, and so inflamed the public mind that numerous arrests were made and a searching investigation instituted by the authorities, which, however, failed in discovering any reliable traces of the guilty perpetrators. Heavy rewards were offered by the Common Council for their conviction, together with a full pardon to any who would reveal his knowledge of the conspiracy, and denounce his associates.

Great numbers of witnesses were examined, and on the testimony of a colored girl, several negroes were arrested and despite their terrified efforts to secure safety by criminating the innocent, were found guilty and executed.

Other informers speedily appeared and fresh victims to the popular fury were immolated in great numbers and in quick succession. The populace, maddened by excitement and thirsting for revenge, stimulated the authorities in the prosecution of their hasty inquiries and refused to permit any interference with the fate of the condemned, even when by com-

pliance with the terms of pardon they had entitled themselves to immunity.

Two of Mr. Clarkson's slaves, Tom and Fortune, were accused of complicity in the plot. Tom escaped without much trouble, but Fortune was sentenced to exportation. The latter made the following confession :

"That sometime about Christmas last (1740), he was going to Comfort's for tea water, where he saw Captain Marshall's Ben, Mr. Rutger's Quash, and Mr. Vanderspiegle's Fortune, on the hill at Comfort's. That they carried him to Hughson's, where they had one or two bowls of punch. That Hughson drank with them, and told them they should never want for liquor, whether they had money or not. That after they had drunk, Hughson made him swear and kiss a book, and say, may evil happen to me if I tell anybody, and told him he must fire his master's house and kill the family, or else he would kill him, then, he promised he would."

Upon the most candid and impartial survey of all the facts, says Randall, there seems to be no justification for the persecution of the hapless victims of this terrible period. Both informers and witnesses were of the lowest and vilest character, their testi-

mony vague and contradictory and their inducements to falsehood powerful. The sole excuse for the conduct of the public authorities consisted in their inability, in the midst of the prevailing panic, to discover the real authors of the crimes which had been perpetrated.

Soon after this event, tidings were brought to Mr. Clarkson of the recent death in England, on the 20th of November, 1744, of his aunt Rebecca, with whom, during his absence abroad, he must have been intimately acquainted. With the exception of Katharine, she was the only surviving sister of his father.

During all these years Mr. Clarkson was actively engaged in the Assembly.

The journals of its proceedings bear abundant testimony to his regular attendance and remarkable industry. He was seldom absent from his seat, and was constantly employed on committees. To the reports of these committees, to the motions which he offered, and to his votes, we must refer to ascertain his views and opinions, but we shall ever remain in ignorance of those qualities which distinguished him in debate, and which made him, according to Smith, one of the recognized leaders of the opposition.

Although the influence attributed to him, in a sharp satire, published after his death, is doubtless greatly exaggerated, yet, it is very evident, it would have been pointless had not his pre-eminence among the delegates been generally acknowledged. In this satire his colleagues were said to have been entirely under his direction and to have watched his movements to see when they should say "yea" and when "nay," and were accordingly called "yea and nay members!"

The terseness and vigor of Clarkson's language may best be seen in a remonstrance, presented by a committee of which he was the chairman, and which, it may fairly be presumed, was the product of his pen.

We make only a few extracts:

"What steps have since been taken, what artifices industriously made use of, to distract and divide us, may appear by your Excellency's speeches and messages to the House, ever since you have thought fit to place your sole confidence in that person who styles himself the next in administration, and have been pleased to submit yourself to his direction and influence. We esteem it a great misfortune to the country that you have fallen into such ill hands;

that the fate of this country should, in this time of eminent danger, depend solely upon the advice and consent of a man so obnoxious, who, by the whole course of his conduct, seems to have had only his own interest in view, without any regard to the safety and welfare of the Colony."

"It has often been insinuated that we run counter to the inclinations of our constituents, that we do not do as much as they would have us do, that we are parsimonious and saving of the Colony's money, and yet, we must imagine it would appear upon a review of our proceedings, that notwithstanding our care has been to manage with frugality, the Colony has been put to the extraordinary expense of near seventy thousand pounds since the commencement of the French war, which is a burden we fear our constituents will be apt to think too heavy for them to bear. However, we please ourselves with the thought of having discharged our duty to his Majesty and to our country. What further the public exigencies may soon require, we cannot tell, but as we would not be profuse and lavish of our constituents' money, so neither would we be too sparing, we are ready and most heartily willing to do everything that can be reasonably expected of us,

consistent with the circumstances of the Colony, that may be for his Majesty's service, and the interest, security and defence of this and his Majesty's other colonies in North America."

It was highly creditable to Clarkson, and furnishes strong evidence of his popularity, that he sat in five successive Assemblies, embracing the administrations of Clarke and Clinton, and covering the whole period, with the exception of some seventeen months, from 1739 until 1751.

During his public career he resisted every attempt of the Crown to encroach in any manner upon the liberties of the people. To withstand oppression seemed to be an instinct of his nature. He was always in opposition to the government. He sustained injuries, but he never faltered. When no other argument would prevail he still remonstrated. In common with his colleagues, he was tenacious in his opinion that the inhabitants of the Colony were entitled to *all* the privileges of Englishmen. That they had a *right* to a participation in the Legislative power, and that an Assembly in the Province was wisely substituted for representation in a Parliament, which at its remote distance would be exceedingly inconvenient and dangerous.

The government, on the other hand, entertained sentiments of a very different nature, and oftentimes rendered itself very obnoxious to the people, by the methods which it employed to enforce them. As it was then administered, it could expect from Clarkson little sympathy. He was consequently never raised to the Council Board, no preferments awaited him, but he had the confidence of his constituents and the consciousness of his own integrity.

He was widely known and as widely honored, and possessed of a large estate, he was rich without pride, and liberal without ostentation.

He did not attain old age, but died in the full maturity of his powers and while still a member of the Assembly, on Saturday, the 7th of April, 1751, before he had attained his 57th year. He left four sons to inherit his name and his virtues, Freeman, David, Levinus and Matthew.

"To be decently interred at the discretion of my executors," was the only injunction he gave about his burial, and it is not known what place was chosen for this purpose. It is very probable, however, that wherever his remains may at first have been deposited, they now rest with those of his wife in the family vault in Trinity Churchyard.

The *Post-Boy* of April 15, 1751, announced his death as follows:

“Died on Saturday evening, the 7th inst., in the 57th year of his age, Mr. David Clarkson, merchant, one of the Representatives for this city, in which station he served for several years with great diligence and fidelity, to the great satisfaction of his constituents, who lament his death as a public loss. He was a gentleman of excellent endowments of mind, of strict honor and integrity, uniform in his conduct, true to his trust, sincere in his friendship, plain and open-hearted, benevolent and charitable, endeavoring to do all the good he could in the several relations Providence had placed him in. He bore his last illness, though attended with uncommon difficulty, with a perfect patience and resignation from a sense of duty and a well-grounded hope of a blessed immortality. His remains were decently interred on Thursday last.”

Mrs. Clarkson survived her husband nearly eight years, and died at her residence in the city on the 26th of January, 1759, in her 53d year.

Notices of her death appear in two of the colonial papers, the *Gazette* and the *Mercury*. The following extract is from the *Gazette* of February 5, 1759:

“On Tuesday last were interred in the Trinity vault the remains of Mrs. Ann Margaret Clarkson, widow of the late Mr. David Clarkson, an eminent merchant of this city. She was a lady of the most exemplary piety and many amiable accomplishments; in her the united characters of the tender mother, the dutiful wife and the sincere friend shone with distinguished lustre, and set so gracefully upon her that they appeared to be as much her pleasure as her duty. She was in the midst of them perfectly easy to herself and agreeable to all that were about her, ever cheerful in her behavior, but withal ever calm and even. Her satisfaction, like a deep, untroubled stream, ran on without any of that violence or noise which sometimes the shallowest pleasures do most abound in, and having always lived in the practice of virtue, she left the world with that resignation and fortitude which Christianity only is capable of inspiring.”

Mr. Clarkson had no daughter. His family consisted of seven sons:

Freeman was born December 24, 1724, and died, unmarried, September 14, 1770.

David was born June 3, 1726; married Elizabeth French, May 3, 1749, and died November 14, 1782.

Matthew was born September 20, 1728, and died young.

Streatfeild was born November 4, 1731, and died young.

Matthew was born March 12, 1733; married Elizabeth de Peyster, June 1, 1758, and died September 25, 1772.

Levinus was born July 28, 1737, and died young.

Levinus was born October 8, 1740; married Mary Van Horne, February 21, 1763, and died May 24, 1798.



SECTION V.

DAVID CLARKSON, JR.

In the preceding memoirs, the materials employed have been derived from sources other than the family archives; we have now arrived at a period when the work approaches in character more of an autobiography, so largely does the subject of our sketch furnish and enrich the record with his own contributions.

David Clarkson, Jr., was the second son of David Clarkson and Ann Margaret Freeman, and was born on the 3d of June, 1726. When five days old he was christened in the Dutch church in Garden street, having for his sponsors his uncle, Matthew Clarkson, and his uncle's wife, Cornelia, the daughter of Johannes de Peyster.

In consequence of the early death of his two younger brothers, and the great disparity in years which existed between himself and his father's other children, except Freeman, David found few play-mates at home, and there were not many in the circle of his relatives; and limited as this number was, it became still more reduced upon the death of his uncle, in 1739, and the subsequent removal of his widow and her family to Philadelphia.

Nothing more has been ascertained of young Clarkson at this period, beyond the single fact alluded to by himself in one of his letters, that he once knew the Dutch language better than the English.

In 1741, at the age of about fifteen, he lost his grandfather, the Rev. Bernardus Freeman, whose wife had died only a few years previously. He had been accustomed to spend his summers with them at Flatbush. The family was now diminished to the one household, Mr. and Mrs. Clarkson, the subjects of our last sketch, and their four sons, Freeman, David, Matthew and Levinus.

The two older boys were sent to England, and probably to the continent, in order, as it has been supposed, that they might benefit by that higher education which the Province had not the means of

supplying. On this occasion they may have visited their father's aunt Katharine, who was the last survivor of the three daughters of the Rev. David Clarkson. Her death occurred not long afterwards, on the 11th of January, 1757, at Hitchin, Herts, at the extreme age of eighty-four years. Early in the spring of 1749, or perhaps in the preceding year, leaving Freeman in Europe, David returned to America. He had made the purchase, while in London, of "an Italian chaise, a neat Newmarket twig whip, and a green net for a horse."

Soon after coming home, and before he was twenty-three years of age, he married, on the 3d of May, 1749, Miss Elizabeth French. This young lady was the daughter of Philip French and Susanna Brockholles, and grand-daughter of Governor Anthony Brockholles.

Mr. French had been the owner of a large tract of land in New Jersey, comprising a portion, if not the whole, of what is now New Brunswick, but his fortune at this time was very much impaired. Two of his children were already married, Anne to David Van Horne,¹ whose sister was the wife of Governor

¹ David Van Horne had one son and six daughters.

General David Van Horne, the only son, married Sarah Miller,

William Burnet, and Susanna to William Livingston, a grandson of the first proprietor of the Manor on the Hudson, and an active and distinguished patriot of the Revolution, called by the British "the Don Quixote of the Jerseys." Mary, the only other daughter of Philip French, subsequently married the Hon. William Brown,¹ at one time of Beverly, Massachusetts, and later of Salem, New Hampshire. Mr. Brown had been previously married to a daughter of Governor Burnet.

THE FAMILY OF FRENCH.

The family of French was probably established at Kelshall, Suffolk county, England, as early as 1641, and had a daughter Augusta, the wife of Samuel Floyd, and they had two sons and one daughter.

The other children of David Van Horne and Anne French, were :

Mary, married Levinus Clarkson.

Cornelia, married Philip P. Livingston.

Catherine, married General Jacob Reed.

Elizabeth, married Charles Ludlow.

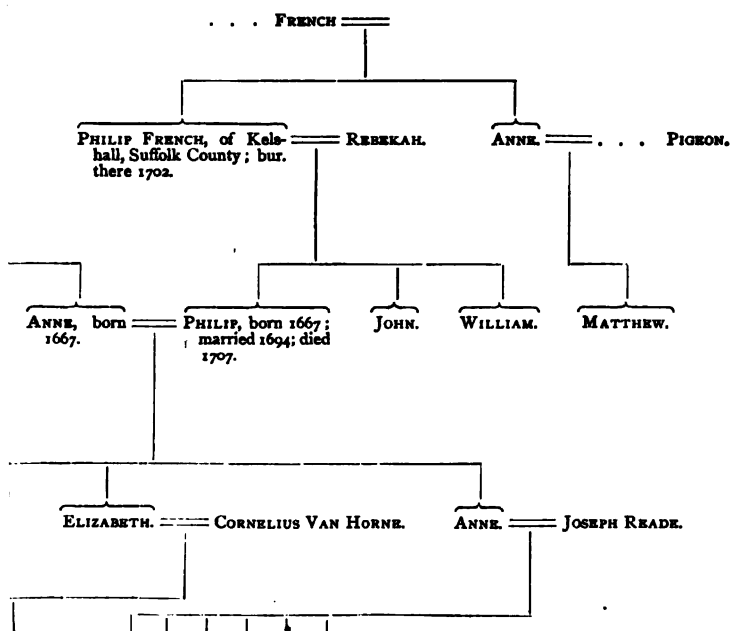
Susan, married George Trumbull.

Anne, married William Edgar.

¹ Mr. William Brown by his first wife had issue, an only son, William Burnet Brown, and by his second wife two daughters :

Anne, born August 25, 1754.

Sarah, born February 13, 1758.



PHILIP.
OHN.

1. LAWRENCE, died unmarried.
2. JOSEPH, died unmarried.
3. JOHN. - - - - - == CATHERINE, daughter of ROBERT GILBERT LIVINGSTON.
4. ANNE, born 1726; married == GERRIT VAN HORNE, born 1726; died 1765.
5. SARAH, married 1748. - - - == JAMES DE FEYSTER, born 1726; died 1799.
6. MARY, married 1768. - - - == FRANCIS STEPHENS.

in which year "Thomas Frensh, of Kelshall" paid for his lands there a subsidy to the King of £1 12 0.

Philip French, the ancestor of the family of that name in America, was residing, towards the close of the same century, in the same town. By his will, which was dated February 12, 1697-8, and admitted to probate February 4, 1703-4, he leaves to his wife, Rebekah French, £60 a year; to John French, his second son, he bequeaths the sum of £1,000, to be paid to him in current money in New York by Philip French, his eldest son, within twelve months after testator's decease; and to William French, his youngest son, he leaves the sum of £800, when he shall accomplish the full age of twenty-one years; he also leaves to Ann Pigeon, his sister, £20, and in case of her dying before testator, then said sum to be paid to her son, Matthew Pigeon; to his cousin, John French, he leaves £30. He appoints his eldest son, Philip, his sole executor and residuary legatee, and his said kinsman (cousin), John French, "super-adviser" of his will, and desires him to take care of his affairs "until my said son, Philip French, shall come over into England, if he shall happen to be beyond sea at the time of my decease," and also

guardian of his youngest son, William. Testator bequeaths to his son Philip and his heirs male his messuage, lands, and tenements, etc., in Kelshall, and in default of male issue, to his second son, John, and his heirs male, and for want of such issue, to his youngest son, William French.

Philip French, the testator, died at Kelshall in May, 1702, and on the 12th of that month was buried in the church at that place.

In the spring of 1689 his son Philip arrived at Boston in the "Prudent Sarah," accompanied, it is said, by his brother John, but of the latter very little is definitely known. Philip, at this time, was scarcely twenty-two years of age. He soon, however, became a prosperous merchant, and further increased his wealth by his marriage, on the 8th of July, 1694, with Anne, a daughter of the Hon. Frederick Philipse,¹ a man of large property, who had emigrated from Friesland, Holland, to New Amsterdam. Mr. French was a violent anti-Leislerian, and experienced all the changes of fortune which befell his party, at one time having been banished from the city and under attainder, and at other times having been made Speaker of

¹ See note to Appendix A.

the Assembly and Mayor of New York. His death occurred in 1707, when he could not have been more than forty years of age. His wife, three daughters and an only son, survived him. His eldest child, Philip, died in infancy.

Philip, the second son, was baptized on the 17th of November, 1697, and was married, in 1720, to Susanna, daughter of the Hon. Anthony Brockholles, a major in the British army. They were the parents of Mrs. David Clarkson, Jr.

Elizabeth was baptized on the 14th of February, 1700, and married, July 13, 1718, Cornelius Van Horne, Mayor of New York, and member of the Governor's Council, in New Jersey, in which Province his two sons, John and Philip, resided. The latter was a Judge of the Common Pleas. This Cornelius, and the David already referred to in these pages, and Cornelius G., the husband first of Joanna Livingston and afterwards of Judith Jay, were severally the sons of three brothers, John, Abraham and Gerrit, whose grandfather, Jan. Cornelissen Van Hoorn,

came to America some time prior to 1645, from the pleasant and opulent city of Hoorn, on the Zuyder-Zee.

Margaret was baptized May 4, 1701, and died unmarried.

Anne, the youngest child, became the wife of Joseph Reade,¹ at one time a member of the Governor's Council, and for a long series of years a Warden and Vestryman of Trinity Church. The street known as Reade street derived its name from him.

THE FAMILY OF BROCKHOLLES.

The Brockholles were a very ancient and wealthy family, of Brockholles, in Claughton, Lancashire, whose history reaches back to the fourteenth century. They were members of the Roman Catholic communion, and hearty supporters of the Duke of

¹Joseph and Anne Reade had issue as follows:

Lawrence, died unmarried.

Joseph, died unmarried.

John, married Catherine, daughter of Robert Gilbert Livingston.

Anne, married Gerrit Van Horne.

Sarah, married James de Peyster.

Mary, married Francis Stephens.

York (afterwards James II.), with whom Major Anthony Brockholles served as one of the Guards, consequently sharing in all the military exploits which made the name of the Duke popular with the masses in England. To reward the young guardsman, he was appointed by James to act as Lieutenant to the new Governor of the Province, Sir Edmund Andross, and in case of his death or absence, was to become his successor, an event which occurred in 1684, when Andross was summoned to England.

Mr. Brockholles married, in 1680, Susanna, the only daughter and eventual sole heiress of Hon. Paulus Schröck, or Schrick, formerly of Nuremberg, then of New York, whose wife, Maria, was the widow of John Van Beck, and daughter of Caspar Varleth or Verlet, a Hollander of some importance in Hartford, Connecticut.

There is still preserved in the family of Mrs. Mary Joanna Norrie, a descendant of Governor Brockholles, a baptismal token of gold, which was presented by his sponsor to Hanns Carll Schröcken, an uncle probably of the Governor's wife. The token bears an inscription in German of which the following is a translation :

"A^o 1622.

"On the first day of July, at a quarter before six by the great clock, there was born unto the Most worthy Paulus Schröcken, of gentle rank, and Dame Susanna, née Halzeltin, his dear wedded wife, and of both, the legitimate son, Hanns Carll, lifted out of the Holy Baptism by Carll Grundtherrn, who presents his dear godson this Token, in memory of Christ, invoking God's blessing."

A BAPTISMAL TOKEN.

JULY 1, 1622.



PRESENTED BY CARLL GRUNDTHERRN TO HIS GODSON,
HANNS CARLL SCHRÖCKEN.

Governor Brockholles had eight children, only four of whom survived infancy.

Mary, the eldest, was born July 5, 1682, and remained single; she died June 10, 1766.

Henry was born December 28, 1684; married Maria Verplanck, and died without issue, March 4, 1766.

Susanna was born February 19, 1696, and married Philip French, in 1720. As before remarked, they were the parents of Mrs. David Clarkson, Jr.

Joanna was born February 15, 1700; married the Hon. Frederick Philipse, and was killed by a fall from her carriage on her Highland estate, leaving children.

The direct narrative having been interrupted to notice the families of French and Brockholles, it is now resumed again.

Miss Elizabeth French, now Mrs. Clarkson, was born December 27, 1724, and was baptized in the Garden street church, where nearly all the children of the Dutch and English families received the sacrament. Her sponsors were her uncle, Henry

Brockholles, and her aunt, Mrs. Cornelius Van Horne. When Elizabeth was only five years old, her parents went to Europe on account of the delicate health of her mother, but the benefit which was expected to accrue from the change, and from the treatment of her case by foreign physicians, was not realized, and she died while in Europe. It is probable that during the absence of Mr. and Mrs. French their four daughters were committed to the care of their aunt, Mary Brockholles, with whom they continued to reside until they married. Soon after his return, Mr. French married again (in 1731-2) and had issue—a son, Philip.

In 1749 David commenced to erect for himself a dwelling on the property in Whitehall street, which had been purchased of the city by his father in 1732. Mr. Andrew Guartier was employed as the architect, and if he acquitted himself as creditably in this building as he did sometime afterwards in the construction of St. Paul's Chapel, the house must have been an ornament to the city, and deserved a better fate than in 1776 befell it. It adjoined Mr. Oliver de Lancey's. Mr. Clarkson with his family moved into their new residence on the 25th of October, 1752, the furniture of which, in

part, had been ordered from Europe, and embraced a variety of articles, though, necessarily, the larger portion was purchased in the Province. Of the latter, no catalogue remains. In the list of things imported, we find: Four festooned curtains, made up in London, of crimson mixed damask, trimmed with braid and thread lace, with four silk and worsted tassels; four green damask canblet curtains, also made in London, with silk lace and worsted tassels; an elbow chair of Virginia walnut, covered in damask, stuffed and nailed; eight other chairs, in damask, with stuffed seats; a rosewood tea-chest; an eight-day clock, in a walnut case; two large mirrors and two looking-glasses in carved gold frames, and one in a walnut frame; a glass pyramid; a pair of steel dogs with brass heads, and a walnut-tree dressing-glass, and, probably for the hall, a brass frame "lanthorn," with silk cords and brass pulleys. For the table service there was blue and white china, and for ordinary use "burnt china;" three punch bowls, two of blue and white and one of "burnt china;" a dozen flowered wine and a dozen jelly glasses; an equal number of syllabub and cut sweetmeat glasses; a large quantity of bottles, with the initials D. C., and complete

sets of metal dishes and plates, with the family crest.

In addition to all these articles, there were several pieces of silver plate,¹ a library of nearly two hundred volumes, embracing not only the popular novels, but many standard works, and for family use, casks of Madeira wine.

We now come to a time in Clarkson's personal history when we shall have the advantage of material in his own handwriting. This covers nearly the whole period from the year after his marriage until his death, and embraces his letter-book, his book of general invoices, a memorandum book, and thirteen annual almanacs, the latter comprising most of the years from 1751 to 1769.

Almost the first entry in the almanac for 1751, reads thus: "Father dyed between eight and nine o'clock in the evening." The record was made on Easter-day, the 7th of April, and on the Thursday following occurs the further entry: "Buryed in the afternoon at six o'clock."

Passing from this very cursory view of his earlier life we find him suddenly, at the age of twenty-eight, the subject of a brilliant piece of fortune. Already

¹ See Appendix B.

possessed of considerable property, and surrounded not only with all the comforts, but with many of the elegancies of life, he purchased in 1754, in company with Mr. John Riddell, a cousin of the Hon. John Watts, of New York, and afterwards, by inheritance, a Baronet, a ticket in the great lottery for the founding of the present colossal British Museum. This mammoth scheme was directly under the sanction of the Royal Parliament, and had an authorized capital, in shares, of £300,000 sterling. Two-thirds of this amount were to be distributed as prizes, and the balance was to be appropriated to the purchase of Sir Hans Sloane's collection, and to the erection of a suitable building for it and the Cotton library.

The ticket was procured through Mr. Thomas Streatfeild, and drew the highest prize, ten thousand pounds sterling. One-half of this sum, or twenty-five thousand dollars in gold, was Clarkson's share.

Such good news for one of the colonists could not, of course, escape the lynx eye of the *Weekly Gazette*. Accordingly, we read in its issue of March 11, 1754:

"We learn by letters, via Barbadoes, from London, that a prize of £10,000 sterling, in the late State Lottery, is the property of Mr. David Clark-

son, of this city, merchant, in conjunction with Mr. John Riddell, of Curaçoa, merchant."

Unfortunately, we have no almanac for this year; if there had been one, it would doubtless have contained notes not unlike those inscribed on the covers of 1758 and 1759, "Successful 1758 of happy memory," and "Glorious 1759,"—in which years the British troops were victorious in Canada and elsewhere, and Clarkson made largely by his insurances and other ventures.

Clarkson was not, however, dependent upon this turn of fortune's wheel, nor did it alter, in any way, his mode of living. He still pursued, as he had from early life, his career as a merchant, and traded extensively with various parts of Europe. Among his correspondents were Pomeroy and Streatfeild, Samuel and Thomas Fludgers, Pomeroy and Hodgskins, and Joseph Mico, all of London; Thomas Pennington and Son, of Bristol; Daniel Crommelin and Son, of Amsterdam; John Gill, of St. Croix; Hill, Lamar and Hill, of Madeira, and many others. His importations consisted of tea, coffee, spices, dry goods, and many other commodities required by the colonists.

His integrity and wealth made his other engage-

ments equally lucrative. As an underwriter of vessels he seems to have carried on an extensive business. No corporate companies then undertook the risks of insurance, and the merchant, not willing to incur the heavy loss which an accident at sea might at any moment occasion, sought to divide the hazard with some other merchant. Those who possessed the largest capital were, for this purpose, most in favor, and from this source alone Clarkson derived a handsome income.

At what period the design of establishing a college in New York was first seriously entertained does not appear, but as early as October 23, 1746, it was ordered in the Assembly, of which his father was a member, that a bill be brought in for raising by public lottery a certain sum of money for the advancement of learning and towards founding a college in the Colony. The measure was approved at a subsequent session, and received the signature of the Governor before the close of the year. Success having attended this and other means for obtaining the amount needed, it was vested, in 1751, in ten trustees, of whom seven were members of the Church of England, and a number vestrymen of Trinity Church. The large majority of Episco-

paliars in the board, and an offer subsequently made by Trinity, "of any reasonable quantity of the church farm, for the erecting and use of a college," naturally suggested a "Church Establishment," and apprehensions thus excited caused violent opposition to the plan of procuring a royal charter. Mr. William Livingston, the only Presbyterian among the trustees, was its most formidable adversary. He was a gentleman by birth, and was already eminent by his superior education and by his industry and talents as a lawyer. A declared enemy of all church establishments, he was actuated by conscientious but mistaken views of the design and tendency of the incorporation he so zealously endeavored to defeat. The controversy was continued for some time, and on both sides was a very bitter one, but, notwithstanding every effort to prevent it, the charter, though long delayed, finally passed the seals on the 1st of November, 1754. In the list of "four and twenty of the principal gentlemen of the city" who were made the first Governors of Kings, now Columbia, College, occur the names of David Clarkson and his brother-in-law, William Livingston. Clarkson accepted the office, and thus became associated with his father in the founding of this institution;

Livingston could not overcome his prejudices, and refused to take the required oaths.

In 1757, the subject of this memoir was chosen a Vestryman of Trinity Parish, in which position he remained until 1769. In the succeeding year he received the appointment of Warden, and was again Vestryman from 1771 to 1777. His grandfather, the Secretary of the Province, had served the same corporation in the same capacity.

Early in the year 1759, in one of the almanacs, occurs this record: "My Mother dyed, aged 52 years and 5 months." This entry was made on Friday the 26th of January, and on the Monday following, the record is confined to one word "Buryed."

In the preceding summer, on the 1st of June, Matthew had married Elizabeth, a daughter of Abraham de Peyster and Margaret Van Cortlandt, and in the following spring Freeman took possession of the old homestead at Flatbush. There, as a bachelor, with books for his companions and a farm to furnish him amusement and occupation, he spent the remainder of his life. Levinus, the only other brother, continued to reside with David until 1761, when he made a trip to Europe; he returned in the

following year, and on the 21st of February, 1763, married Mary, the very beautiful daughter of David Van Horne and Anne French.

Just before the departure of Levinus for Europe, a settlement of their father's property had been made which yielded in personalty to each of the sons six thousand pounds. The estate further embraced considerable realty in the city, in the county of Westchester, and elsewhere. The following receipt from the youngest of the brothers shows the liberal spirit which regulated the distribution :

“Received of my brother, David Clarkson, two hundred pounds, which I acknowledge he paid; one hundred pounds towards purchasing plate to make me equal with the rest of my brothers,—the other hundred they generously give me, imagining I have not received so many advantages from the estate as they have by that sum.

“LEV. CLARKSON.

“October 20, 1761.”

During these years the almanacs contain very few memoranda of interest. We learn by one entry that Mr. Clarkson “set out for Albany, in order to go

to 'Montreal and Quebec," but he omits to state the impressions he received from his journey. This record was made on the 12th of June, 1761. Another entry, on the 21st of April, 1762, reads thus: "Y^e lamps lit for the first time." The old plan of lighting the city by lanterns suspended from the windows had been abandoned, and lamps and lamp-posts were erected in the principal streets at the public expense.

His family, in 1765, consisted of his wife, five sons and one daughter. The sons were David, Freeman, Matthew, Thomas Streatfeild and Levinus; Ann Margaret was the only daughter, and included in the household was her young cousin, Sarah Brown.

Three years after the death of Mrs. Clarkson's sister, Mrs. William Brown, her two children, one ten years of age and the other six, their father having already died, were committed to the care of their aunts. Anne was sent to Mrs. David Van Horne's, and Sarah, until she became the wife of Edward Hall, of Maryland, remained at Mrs. Clarkson's. The older of the two, Anne, never married, but her cousin David always insisted, in his maturer life and when still a bachelor, that he and Nancy

would certainly have made a match if it had not been for some little matter of difference. This declaration, which was often repeated in the presence of Miss Brown, would as often occasion a little confusion of manner and a protest from the old lady upon the folly of David in talking such nonsense.

During all this time affairs in the Province seemed to be gliding on smoothly, and everything promised peace and prosperity. But it was a deceitful calm; the clouds of the coming tempest were gathering in the distance and preparing to burst with terrible effect upon the doomed city. The people were daily becoming more bitter against their rulers, and the latter still more persistent in enforcing their rigorous policy. "History," it has been said, "does not furnish an instance of a revolt begun by the people which did not take its rise from oppression." The subject of taxing the colonies had for some time been agitated in England. It was argued that as they had a right to demand protection from Parliament, the Parliament in return had a right to enforce a revenue from the colonies. It was asked, by the reputed great master of American affairs, "Will these American children, planted by our care, nourished by our indulgence to strength and opu-

lence, and protected by our arms, grudge to contribute their mite to relieve us from the heavy burden under which we lie?" "We have power to tax them," said one of the ministry, "and we will tax them." On the 27th of February, 1765, the Stamp Act, which had been long debated, passed the Commons. In ten days it was agreed to by the Lords, and on the 22d of March received the royal assent by a commission. When the news of this event reached New York, copies of the Act were hawked about the streets, with a death's head affixed to them, and this legend, "The Folly of England and the Ruin of America."

On the night before the dreaded first of November, when the act was to go into effect, the merchants met at Burns' Coffee House, on the west side of Broadway, opposite the Bowling Green, a site which has been occupied within the last few years as a public garden, and there resolved to import no goods from England, and to sell none on commission received thence, until the measure should be repealed.

In a letter¹ written at this time to his uncle and

¹The letters in this volume written by Mr. Clarkson are copied from his letter-book, and are probably the *rough drafts* of those afterwards sent.

aunt in Holland, referring to the sale of some lands in the Westchester patent, in which all the family were interested, Clarkson says :

“New York, Nov. 13, 1765.

“Hon^d Uncle and Aunt :

“ . . . They are to give Bonds with interest for the exact quantity of acres, at seven per cent. from the 31st October last, with security of a Mortgage upon the said Patent, which has not yet been done, neither do I know when it will be, as a late Act of Parliament deprives us of our liberties, by obliging the Colonies to make use of Stamp-paper, sent on purpose from England, for every Deed, Bond and Mortgage, and in short for every thing, and enacts that they are invalid without it. The Colonies are determined never to use them, so that the Governor, who is sworn to put the Act in force, has not yet been able. The disturbance it has occasioned, and still occasions, cannot be described, all government being at an end. The Mob as they are called by some, the Sons of Liberty by others, obliged the Governor to entrench himself in the Fort, who had the Stamp-paper in his possession. They swore, if he did not deliver it, they

would destroy the city, but, before he complied, they did a deal of mischief. . . . This day Sir Harry Moore arrived.

“For the above reasons, this vessel was cleared before the first of November, and no one knows when another will be cleared, unless they use Stamp-paper, which, the Mob say, it is death to do. . . .

“D. CLARKSON.”

Ten days afterwards he writes on the same subject to his friend Mr. Thomas Streatfeild, of the eminent mercantile house of Pomeroy and Streatfeild, of Leadenhall street, London. The family resided at Chiddingstone, Kent, and had an ancient and an honorable record. At the time of his death, in 1792, an obituary appeared in “The Gentleman’s Magazine,” which commended his benevolent and religious character, and extolled his many and conspicuous virtues.

“New York, Nov. 23, 1765.

“My worthy friend :

“I am ashamed to mention how long it is since I wrote you last, being as far back as the 10th August,

accompanying Mr. Baker. I hope he is safe arrived. I don't doubt of your usual goodness in excusing me, as my remissness never proceeded from want of affection and esteem, but, was occasioned by the disturbance in putting the Stamp Act in force.

"Such times I never expected to have seen, the particulars of which you must have heard. Had not the Lieutenant Governor delivered up the Stamps to the people, as he did, most persons believe the city would have been destroyed, as, the Fort had long since been making preparations for that purpose.

"For my own part, as I am a neighbor of the Governor's, I thought it prudent to carry my children to Flatbush, where they stayed till a capitulation was made. I also packed up my most valuable effects and sent them off.

"But, thank God, just as affairs were thus situated, our new Governor, Sir Henry Moore arrived, when Colden was, with universal joy, dismissed. We are now in peace and quietness, and happy unanimity subsists, which, I sincerely wish may continue. However, I believe it will be entirely owing to Parliament, whether we are to remain so, or, to be a ruined people. If they insist upon the Act being put in force, nothing human can prevent

our destruction. We are therefore between hope and fear. Many arguments are made use of to encourage the former, but, the latter spoils our reflections.

“I should be much obliged to you, to give me the earliest intelligence, of the very smallest appearance, to ground my hopes upon, that those oppressive acts will be repealed.

“I wish it was in my power to partake of as much happiness as a voyage to England would afford me, but, as I cannot as yet have it in reality, I therefore frequently think of it with a vast deal of pleasure, the result of which is, that it sets me the more earnestly longing.

“D. CLARKSON.”

The house at Flatbush, to which reference is made in the foregoing letter, had been leased some years previously from Mr. P. Nagel, Jr., and Mr. Clarkson was accustomed to remove to it with his family every summer. Besides being easy of access from the city, it had the additional advantage of being near the old homestead where Freeman continued to reside.

Whitfield, the famous Methodist divine, was now

in New York, and the excitement his visits always occasioned, will account for an entry which appears in the almanac for 1766: "Paid Nath. Fish, for my horses standing in his stable while Parson Whitfield preached." Persons of all sects were attracted by his fame, and whenever it was known that he was to occupy the pulpit, every pew, gallery and aisle were sure to be filled. The very sound of his deep-toned and melodious voice was enough to rouse the enthusiasm of his hearers, and connected with his exciting doctrine, its effect was said to be overpowering. My grandfather, said Mr. Duer, went often to listen to his oratory, and was wont to relate that, on one of these occasions, he happened to be seated next to an old lady, whom the pathetic eloquence of the preacher had moved to tears. They flowed so copiously, said he, and were accompanied by sobs so loud and sighs so deep, and withal so indiscriminate, that he was induced to ask her, after the exercises were over, what part of the sermon had most particularly affected her, "Oh! sir," she replied, "it was when he said, 'Gethsemane! Gethsemane!'" Such was the magic of this man's oratory.

No relief had yet come to the colonies, and their

deplorable condition was the burden of two letters written by Clarkson, at intervals of a few months, to his London friend, Mr. Streatfeild.

“New York, January 6, 1766.

“My worthy friend :

“ . . . I observed your complaint of the very great decline of business to America and your sincere wishes for its being remedied. This must be the observation and wish of every judicious and well-thinking person, but, believe me, you, nor no one else, that is a friend to America, will ever see our trade to Europe augmented, unless we are relieved from many oppressive acts, particularly, the late unpopular, unconstitutional Stamp-Act. The Colonies are determined for the future to supply themselves with everything this country affords, for which reason, they have established a Fair or Market, for all kinds of woollens, etc., giving great premiums for the largest in quantity and best of the kind that is made, and it is increasing daily. Many gentlemen are already clothed with this country's produce.

“I did not know when I should be able to forward this, as all vessels for some time past, have

been stopped by Men-of-War in port, by reason of their clearances not being stamped, but, the inclemency of the weather has obliged the captains of them to lay them up, so that the port is now open again.

"Notwithstanding, we are still in a sad state, having no law to compel debtors to pay their debts, neither, can we sell Real Estate. Every person does as he pleases. He that speaks in favor of the Act is sure to be hanged in effigy, or, has some threatening advertisement against him. We are suspending almost all business until we hear our fate. . . .

"D. CLARKSON."

The following letter is of the same general tenor:

"New York, March 15, 1766.

"My dear friend:

"I have none of your esteemed favors unanswered, having wrote you last on the 6th January, in which I acquainted you with the distress condition we were in on account of the Stamp-Act, which increases by the length of its continuance.

"The merchants, I think, never had greater

reason to complain of hardships than at present, as they have little or no sale for their goods. The people throughout the colonies are determined to encourage every manufacture the country is capable of, particularly, the making of linen and woollen cloths, which are already brought to great perfection.

“I am just returned from Jersey, where I had an opportunity of seeing them extremely busy in spinning, as the bounty given, for these articles, by our society, for the most in quantity and the best in quality, is very large. They have had so high a price at the beginning for every thing they made, that it has encouraged them to exert themselves to outdo each other and to get all they possibly can before the Act is repealed.

“The following manufactories are already established. An Air Furnace for casting Iron pots, Kettles, backs, etc. Several manufactories of women’s silk and worsted shoes, which have been judged cheaper and better than those made by the famous Hose. Woollen cloths from seven shillings to fifteen shillings a yard, a scant yard width, which is now worn by the principal gentlemen of the city, who take a pride in it. Shalloon and stuffs are as yet very ordinary and dear. Linen from two shil-

lings to six shillings a yard, and in very great quantity. Pipes, for smoking, made very cheap and neat, of all sizes. Paper,—though not fit to write upon. Paper-hangings. Cutlery, very neat, but dear. Earthen manufactory, dishes, etc., etc., very cheap. Many, for the making of iron into pigs. Another for the making of anchors, etc., of different weights, heavy enough for any of our vessels. Snuffs, of different sorts. Distilleries for Rum, Brandies, Cordials, etc. Sugar bakers in great abundance. Weavers of caps, breeches, stockings, etc., all Germans,—and many others.

“I sincerely think that the promoters of that measure have done Great Britain a real injury and I believe after we have recovered from the difficulties it has thrown us into, which will be some considerable time, we shall then begin to find the good effects of having everything we want within ourselves.

“Not long since, a merchant of this place, took a Mediterranean pass from a Custom-house officer, for which he obliged him to sign a Bond upon Stamped paper, for the re-delivery of the said Bond. When it was discovered, it was with difficulty their lives and property were preserved, but, as it hap-

pened to be their first offence, they were permitted to go into the fields, amid thousands of spectators and from a stand to beg pardon, promising never to do the like again.

“We are waiting, with the greatest expectation imaginable, the arrival of the packet, to hear the agreeable news of the Act being suspended or repealed.

“Last week, the Sons of Liberty, as they style themselves, made an effigy of a late unpopular Lieutenant Governor, which they called by the name of the Rebel Drummer. This they mounted upon a cannon, with a drum on his back, and being fitted on a cart, was drawn by negroes, a prodigious concourse of people following. It was so contrived, that all the way they went, he was drilling the touch-hole, because he had ordered the cannon on the Battery spiked, for fear the inhabitants should turn them upon the Fort, in case it should be besieged.

“D. CLARKSON.”

On the 20th of February, 1766, the Act which had given so much offence to the colonists was repealed, and on the 20th of the following May the

news was received in New York with the greatest enthusiasm. In his next letter to Mr. Streatfeild, Mr. Clarkson refers to the subject again:

“New York, June 28, 1766.

“My dear friend:

“We had the agreeable news of the repeal of the Stamp-Act before the arrival of the packet which brought me your most esteemed favor of the 7th March.

“The rejoicing we had upon the occasion was much more than we ever had for any or all the victories gained over our enemies, though, I must say, I was not half so much elated, owing to the expectation I had that it would certainly be repealed. The General,¹ whoever he was, that made so rash a declaration, would certainly have been egregiously mistaken, if the number of regiments had been granted him that he demanded, and had come to America. He would have had too great a regard for himself and his handful of troops to have made the attempt. I am extremely glad that matters are thus far settled, as they have given me many a melancholy hour.

¹ General Burgoyne.

"I hope this Province and every other upon the continent will for the future, out of gratitude, strive to outdo each other in every act of loyalty, being, as well convinced, as I am that I exist, that it is for the mutual advantage of Great Britain and her colonies, to be cemented together, for which reason, as an individual, I shall ever endeavor to promote it, though, I am afraid, from what has happened, it will be for the future, as you apprehend, 'a jealous eye over each other.'

"I think not only as you do, my dear friend, that it was an imprudent speech that the American¹ made, but, I would have left out the letter *r* in the word imprudent, viz.: 'That in less than a century the seat of government would be here.' For my part, I neither wish nor believe it. . . .

"D. CLARKSON."

In the autumn of this year St. Paul's Chapel, esteemed one of the most elegant edifices on the continent, was opened for the first time for religious services. It must have been an occasion of peculiar interest to Clarkson, who had been connected with the parish as a vestryman for nearly ten years. The

¹Patrick Henry.

attendance was very large, embracing people of all ranks and denominations. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Achmuty, of Trinity, and at the suggestion of his Excellency, Sir Henry Moore, the Governor, "a band of music" was engaged, "on the condition that it should only join in such parts of the service as was usual and customary in like cases."

It is an amusing fact, that the first letter Clarkson writes to Streatfeild, after witnessing the pageant at the chapel, contains an order for "a good hand-organ." "I mean such an one," he says, "that turns with a handle, which will play all the psalm tunes that are set to music by Tate and Brady;" and then he adds: "I should not begrudge giving five or six guineas for it, provided, it had a good tone. I want no ornament about it, but, all the cost to be upon the goodness of the pipes."

In this letter he expresses his conviction that "Great Britain and her colonies will be as good friends as ever," and then continues, "I could have wished Mr. Pitt had had fortitude enough to have refused the alluring offer. I make no doubt but he will retain his integrity, though, by accepting it, he deprives the public of ever having the benefit of his most valuable services in the station he was in."

The change of ministry which brought about the repeal of the obnoxious Stamp-Act, by which the Government expected to realize £10,000 annually, soon gave way to another under the leadership of Pitt, who had just been raised to the Peerage, with the title of Earl of Chatham, and this event was evidently the occasion of the remarks in the above correspondence.

The following letter was addressed to Sir John Riddell, Bart., who had shared with the writer his success in the lottery.

“New York, Nov. 11, 1766.

“My dear friend :

“I have received your esteemed favor of the 10th December last. It was no less pleasing to hear of your health and welfare than it was to find that you had not forgotten your old acquaintance, which time and circumstance often erase out of our minds.

“I am informed, by the death of your father, the title belonging to your family, devolves upon you. I therefore congratulate you upon the occasion. You certainly are a particular favorite of Providence, having in conjunction with myself been blessed with riches, — now with honors. I make no doubt but

you keep in mind the advice of the Prophet, I mean when he says, 'Let not the rich man glory in his riches, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, but, let him that glorieth, glory in this, that he knoweth Me, that I am the Lord.'

"It is with pleasure I hear of the increase of your family, and may propitious Heaven, whose benign smiles you have already so abundantly felt the happy effects of, continue to shower down every blessing upon you and yours to the very latest posterity, and that after having received as much as is possible for the Beneficent Bestower of every good gift to supply here, may you and they receive such everlasting happiness in Heaven, as it is impossible for the heart of man to conceive, is the ardent wish of your sincere friend and

"Affectionate humble servant,

"D. CLARKSON.

"P. S. Mine and Mrs. Clarkson's compliments to you and family."

When he writes again to Streatfeild, Clarkson says, "My friend, Sidney Breese, who is just departing this life, made me promise, that I would

give his kind respects to you, having seen you in some of the outposts of England," and then alluding to the report of Sir John Riddell's illness which had just reached him, adds, "I am sorry for his indisposition. In him, we see, my dear friend, there is a cruel something unpossessed. Providence seemed to smile upon him in every instance, but health, without which there is no enjoying comfortably the Divine Blessings, but, it may finally prove his greatest happiness, designed on purpose by the Wise and Benign Author of our being to take us off from the allurements and pleasures of this world and to make us fix them on Him, in whom alone the only true and solid happiness is to be found." Sir John died in 1768, at Hempstead, England, leaving three sons, one of whom, James, succeeded to the baronetcy.

In the summer of 1767, Clarkson sends four "gammons"¹ of his own curing to Streatfeild, and requests his wife to buy for Mrs. Clarkson, "twenty-four yards of best bright blue satin and a fashionable winter cloak of crimson satin for her own use." He further ordered, "a handsome silver bread basket, open work," and adds, "I would have it light and

¹ Smoked Hams.

thin, so as to cost but little money, with the crest, a griffin's head upon it." The same order included a carpet, which was to have a green ground.

These articles were severally received, and as he writes, "very much to our liking; though the carpet was not green, it was yet very handsome, extremely thick, and will be very serviceable." Mrs. Streatfeild had departed somewhat from her instructions in the choice she was to make of a hat and cloak, but they also gave great satisfaction, as well as the bread basket, which, says the letter, "is as I desired it might be, very light and very pretty."

A calm, in the words of Dunlap, such as portends a storm,—a quiet, such as precedes an earthquake, reigned in the colonies during the years immediately preceding 1770.

Though the Stamp-Act was repealed, the ministry had not abandoned their purpose of raising a revenue in America. It was not long before a bill was introduced into Parliament and passed, laying import duties in the Provinces upon several articles, including tea, and this measure had been preceded by a severe rebuke from the Crown, suspending the legislative powers of the Assembly in New York, in consequence of its refusal to comply with the

requisitions made upon it to furnish quarters and provisions for the King's troops.

During the excitement, consequent upon these occurrences, Clarkson seems very despondent. He writes to Streatfeild, "I am extremely sorry the Parliament will meet so late this year," and further on says, "I am very well convinced that something very fatal will be the result, as it is impossible for the nation to continue long in such convulsions as it is in at present." He concludes: "I know of nothing better for my part, than patience and resignation, for what I cant help I must inevitably bear."

Tidings having been brought to him in the following spring of the death of his uncle Levinus at Voorburg, Clarkson at once offers to the bereaved sister his sincere sympathy:

"New York, April 6, 1770.

"My dear Aunt:

"On the 2d of this month, and not before, I received your much esteemed favor of the 10th October, acquainting me with your inexpressible loss in the death of your worthy and good brother, my much esteemed uncle, who departed this life in sure and certain hopes of one infinitely better,

in the 73d year of his age, on the 6th of October last.

“I heartily and sincerely condole with you in the very heavy loss you have sustained, well knowing, my dear aunt, the great affection you had for each other, and consequently the great affliction it must be to you, he being always a kind and tender brother. I heartily pray God to give you such a resignation to His Divine Will, that you may be able to bear the loss, though severe, with that patience and composure becoming a good Christian. It certainly must be a very great comfort to you, to recollect, that, his delight while on earth was to serve that good and gracious God, who now has taken him to the full enjoyment of himself to all eternity.

“As you are now left alone, and without relations, I wish you would consent to come to America. You should enjoy every conveniency of life that I have, having room enough for you in my house in the city as well as in that in the country. If you will agree to it, I will get my wife’s consent to fetch you, —whenever it is most convenient to you, you will be good enough to let me know.

“I am sorry I cant write you in Dutch, having

forgot the language I once knew better than English.

"I heartily pray Almighty God to bless you with the choicest of His blessings and to give you such consolation that you may be contented and happy while on earth, even without your affectionate brother, my dear uncle, and after living in such a state of happiness here, according to the appointment of the Divine Will, may you ever enjoy with Him, eternal rest, is the sincere wish and desire of,

"Your affectionate nephew,

"D. CLARKSON.

"P. S.—Mrs. Clarkson and family condole with you in the loss of our dear uncle, and request to be kindly remembered to you."

At his father's death, Levinus was but six years old, and his sister Anna still younger. As early as 1718, the year after he had attained his majority, he was established as a merchant at Amsterdam. His maternal uncle, Levinus Van Schaick, whose name he bore—a name still perpetuated in the family—had already settled in Holland, and was the occasion, it may be supposed, of his nephew's visit to that country. In 1719, Clarkson was again in New

York, but for a short time only, and when he returned to Amsterdam he was probably accompanied by his sister Anna. Their lives now became inseparable, and neither married. For some years Levinus was a member of the house of Van Nyys and Clarkson, and when he retired from business, he and his sister removed to Voorburg, near the Hague. Their residence was called "Sion's Lust," from which place they corresponded, first with their brother David, and afterwards with his son, the subject of this memoir.

The decease of Levinus, which occurred in the 74th year of his age, on the 6th of October, 1769, did not long precede that of his nephew Freeman, who died in the autumn of the next year in the homestead at Flatbush.

In a letter, subsequently written to his aunt in Holland, David says: "My brother Freeman departed this life in hopes of a better, on the 14th September, 1770, in the 46th year of his age, extremely resigned."

The funeral was conducted in conformity with the usages of the time; some of the items of expenditure, which follow, would look odd enough on a similar occasion at the present day:

13 gallons, Madeira Wine, at 8s. - -	£ 5	4	0
2 barrels, Beer, - - - -	2	8	0
Pipes and Tobacco, - - - -	8	9	
Ferryman for ferriage, - - - -	3	8	
50 yards, Linen, at 5/4 - - - -	13	6	8
1 piece white Riband, - - - -	17	0	
Mr. John Sebring's bill for funeral, -	3	15	8
Sexton, for his burial, - - - -	1	0	0
Mr. Peter Lott, for ground in the church,	4	0	0
For the coffin, - - - -	1	8	0
For candles, - - - - -	12	0	

The will, which was dated June 23, 1770, contains the following clause:

“Imprimis: I give unto my brother, David Clarkson, of the city of New York, merchant, my gold watch and the seals I usually wear,—the pictures of our grandfathers, Secretary Clarkson, and the Rev. Mr. Freeman, and our uncle Mr. Matthew Clarkson and my own picture,—my glass scrutoire in my dining-room and all the folio books in my library, together with my case with silver-handled knives and forks, my largest silver jug and a two-eared silver cup. I leave him these as a mark of my esteem for him. The Providence of God having

given him more than his brothers, is the reason of my leaving him no more."

These several portraits, there is reason to believe, were collected in the house in Whitehall street, which contained besides one of the Rev. David Clarkson, one of each of the parents of the subject of this memoir, inherited upon the decease of his mother, one of his younger brother Levinus, his own picture and that of his wife. This large number represented the four generations of the family since Robert Clarkeson. The last two of the above named paintings were not regarded as likenesses, and were given to a domestic, from whom, subsequently to Mrs. Clarkson's death, they were obtained by one of her sons and placed in his garret, and by the children were hung as targets; after being completely riddled, an inferior artist was employed to make what was called "*copies*" of them. These are now in the possession of Mr. Charles Clarkson Goodhue, who is also the owner of the original portrait of the Rev. David Clarkson, referred to in an inventory made by David as "*the picture of g-grandfather D. C.*" This is the only one of the collection now extant.

Freeman left the homestead at Flatbush to his

brother Matthew, who had been the senior member of the firm of Clarkson and Sebring, in Dock street, and had not been successful in business. Upon his death, it was to be offered in turn to his remaining brothers, David and Levinus, for £700. If neither was willing to purchase it at this price, it was to be sold to the highest bidder.

In the year 1770, several prominent and public spirited inhabitants of the city of New York, subscribed considerable sums of money for the purpose of erecting and establishing a Hospital. A charter of incorporation was obtained in the following year, and still later, a site on Broadway for the buildings. This comprised five acres of land and formed a part of the Rutgers farm. It was upon the slope of a hill, on three sides of which were marshes, and adjoined the Ranelagh gardens. The property in later years was bounded in front by Broadway and in the rear by Church street, northerly by Anthony street and southerly by Duane street. The corporation was known as the "Society of the Hospital, in the city of New York, in America." The governors were twenty-six in number, and Clarkson was elected a member of the first board. Their meetings were held at Bolton's, and at the Coffee-House. Bolton's

was on the southeast corner of Broad and Pearl streets, and was a resort not unlike the modern Delmonico's. The building is still standing, and while it remains will be memorable as the place where Washington bade farewell to his officers in the winter of 1783-4. The Coffee-house was on the southeast corner of Wall and Water streets. Clarkson served the institution for seven years, and the same office has been filled by three generations of the family successively.

The first blood of the Revolution had already been shed. On the 18th of January, 1770, on the summit of Golden Hill, as John street was then called, near Cliff and William streets, a conflict had occurred between the troops and the citizens, which lasted two days. No lives were lost, but the event served to indicate the resolution of the colonists and to warn their oppressors of the danger of persisting in their fatal policy.

However much the resources of trade may have been curtailed by reason of the disturbed condition of the Provinces, Clarkson does not appear to have sustained any serious pecuniary loss. We find him still ordering furniture from England, and in the autumn of 1771, expressing his own and his wife's

admiration of a girandole and chimney-glass which they had just received. His available means, too, enabled him to accommodate his friends, as we see by the following letter. Judge Livingston was the father of the future chancellor:

“March 12, 1771.

“Dear Sir:

“I have just received yours. I can let Judge Livingston have the sum he wants, provided, he can wait until the first of next month for it. I may, perhaps, supply him with half that sum in a few days, but, would engage £1,850, if he can stay until the 1st April. The best method for him would be to take my money as I receive it in £300, or £400, at a time, giving me his receipt for the same and when I have paid him the sum he wants, the time whence the interest is to commence can be easily ascertained. The method, of not recording Mortgages, I do not approve of, however, the opinion I have of Judge Livingston's integrity, will make me very easy and satisfied without it.

“As the sum is large, I would mention, that if it is inconvenient to the Judge, when the interest

becomes due, to pay it, he could have no objection to give me his Bond to make the interest principal.

"If he approves of what I have now wrote you, you may draw the writings, leaving a blank for the date.

"I am, &c., &c.,

"D. CLARKSON.

"To,

"Mr. William Livingston."

About this time Clarkson hears the news of Mrs. Streafleild's death, and in his letter of condolence to her son, after alluding more particularly to his friend's trial, he says: "I often think I am as happy as the fluctuating state of things here can make me, but, then that very happiness, which greatly consists in the welfare of my family, is instantly taken away, when any of them are taken sick. I lately experienced this to a very great degree in the indisposition of my only daughter, who is now, thank God, quite recovered, which makes me enjoy everything as I used to do. I intend for the future to do all I possibly can to get the better of over anxious care for her and my children's welfare, as I am very

sensible it is my duty to do so, but, I fear it is too much to expect, as the poet writes :

‘ I may strive what I can, or say what I will,
Nature will be nature still.’”

The quiet of the city had remained comparatively undisturbed since the encounter on Golden-hill, though the spirit of resistance to oppression was continually developing itself and becoming more defiant. Affairs were evidently approaching a crisis.

Clarkson, however, was hopeful, and in the spring of 1772 writes to his old friend Larry Reade with a playfulness which characterises but few of his letters.

“New York, March 28, 1772.

“My dear friend :

“I expected before now to have had a letter from my good friend Larry but a multiplicity of engagements, I suppose, has engrossed his time so much, I fancy he can spare but little, to communicate to an old friend, how agreably it passes away.

“Did you know the pleasure and satisfaction it gave me to hear of your welfare, you would indulge me oftener. However, I often inquire of those who

do hear from you and was lately informed you had suffered from a severe fit of the gout. You have undoubtedly read Cadogan. I wish with all my heart, you would put what he says in practice. But, I have very little reason to believe you will regard what I advise, as you are in the midst of every enjoyment of life, where you have importunity and opportunity to partake of everything that is so very kindly offered to you. But, be assured, pay-day will come, and having had one severe fit, you will undoubtedly get another, unless you forbear. I know I am writing to my good old friend and therefore can take the liberty to tell him that did he practice my advice, it would be more conducive to his health.

“By this ship, you will have the pleasure of seeing three of your old acquaintances, Doctor Jones, Robert Watts, and Duer. The two last, it is said, are engaged to Lord Stirling’s daughters. The doctor goes over upon a very odd errand, to have his throat cut! I wish him good success with all my heart, for he really is a blessing to society.

“Our young ladies marry extremely slow and their number increases exceedingly fast, so that they

begin to murmur for sweet-hearts. I wish you would return to us and endeavor to make one, out of the many, happy. . . .

“D. CLARKSON.”

At a very early period, slavery had been introduced into the Province, and a writer says that at one time, New York swarmed with negroes, and resembled a Southern city, with its calaboose on the Park Commons and its Slave Market at the foot of Wall street. Almost every family in the Colony, until within the last hundred years, owned one or more negro servants, and among the richer classes, the number belonging to any one master, was considered to indicate, in some degree, his relative wealth. Clarkson and his father both had house-slaves, and the former, it would appear, by the following letter addressed to Col. John Reid, did not scruple to sell them, if they were not efficient:

“New York, Dec 3. 1772

“Sir:

“I am sorry I had not the pleasure of seeing you, when, you took the trouble to call upon me about

my negro, to whom I had given liberty to look for a master. I should be glad, for his sake, if after I give you his just and true character, he would suit you. He had, as he informed you, acted with me in the capacity of a coachman for nearly eight years. He understands but little of gardening. I have suffered him to wait at table when I was straitened for want of servants. I am well pleased to tell you, he understands it, and any housework required in a family.

“I have now informed you as to his capacity. As for his honesty and sobriety I can recommend him to you in the strongest terms, which were the virtues, if I may call them so, that induced me to keep him until now.

“The reason of my being willing to part with him is, he is not diligent enough and he is too saucy, though, I believe, he may be easily cured of both faults, were proper methods taken.

“I could wish it were in my power to recommend him in such a manner that you would approve of him, but, I apprehend if that were the case, he would not be offered for sale. I gave £100 for him, which is the lowest price I intend to take, and I can

with truth say, he is better worth it now, in every respect, than when I bought him.

“D. CLARKSON.”

In the early autumn of this year, Mr. Clarkson lost his brother, Matthew, and in the *New York Gazette and Weekly Mercury* of the 28th of September, 1772, we read this tribute to his memory :

“Friday last died Mr. Matthew Clarkson, of Flatbush, on Long Island, formerly a merchant of this city, a gentleman eminent for many good qualities. He is missed as a kind and affectionate husband, a tender parent, sincere friend, humane and generous benefactor and an useful member of society. In short those who esteem virtue and regard true merit, must sincerely regret the loss of him, as one who exhibited to the world a laudable example of these striking qualifications. ‘*Laus illi debetur et a me Gratia major.*’ Hor.”

His family consisted of four sons and one daughter. David M., Abraham, Margaret, Matthew and Bernard Freeman. Of these, David M. and Matthew alone left issue.

David M.¹ married Feb. 18, 1781, Mary, daughter of Gerrit Van Horne (a son of Cornelius G. Van Horne and Joanna Livingston), and Anne Reade (whose mother was a daughter of Philip French and Anne Philipse), and his family is now represented by the descendants of his son and daughter, John Charlton Clarkson and Maria Charlton, the wife of John L. Holthuysen.

Matthew, married on the 18th of Dec., 1790, Belinda Smith, and had two sons and one daughter, William, Charlton and Margaret Eliza. All died unmarried. Mrs.

¹ In the north vestry of Trinity Church there is a mural tablet to his memory with this inscription:

SACRED . TO . THE . MEMORY . OF . DAVID . M . CLARKSON
A . WARDEN . OF . THIS . CHURCH
AND . A . CONSTANT . AND . EXEMPLARY . ATTENDANT
ON . ITS . WORSHIP . AND . ORDINANCES.
HE . DIED . 20TH . MAY . 1815 . AGED . 56 . YEARS.
HONOURED . REVERED . BELOVED . LAMENTED.

THIS . MEMORIAL . TO . HIS . WORTH
IS . REARED . BY . ONE . WHO . KNEW . HIM
AS . THE . BEST . OF . MEN . AND . BEST . OF . PARENTS.





10. *Chrysomelidae* (10 spp.)

Clarkson was a sister of Col. W. S. Swain, whose wife was a daughter of the old John Adams.

It appears that David, soon after the death of his brother, purchased the old town school-house, and was laboriously engaged in the renovation of the building, and perhaps necessary additions, to be a fitting place to have his children receive their education, and to use and improve the old building, had procured street-lights, and a new town pippins.

On the 28th of April, 1774, Miss Clarkson, a Scotch-Irish young woman, his cousin, was married to John Deane, a young man, then eight. The bride was a daughter of William Deane, afterwards Governor of the State, and a granddaughter of Philip Barlow, who at this time had held no public office, but had been obliged to take part in the first movement of the Revolution.

All hopes of a reconciliation with Great Britain seemed now at an end. A General Congress of Deputies from the several colonies had assembled for the consideration of public affairs.



Clarkson was a sister of Col. W. S. Smith, whose wife was a daughter of President John Adams.

It appears that David, soon after the death of his brother, purchased the old homestead at Flatbush, and was busily engaged in the summer of 1773, in repairing it and making necessary additions. He had also given orders to have his chariot and phaeton painted and gilded, and looking forward to the autumn, had promised Streatfeild six barrels of Newtown pippins.

On the 28th of April, 1774, Mrs. Clarkson's niece, Sarah Livingston, then in her eighteenth year, was married to John Jay, a young lawyer of twenty-eight. The bride was a daughter of William Livingston, afterwards Governor of New Jersey, and a granddaughter of Philip French. Mr. Jay up to this time had held no public office, but before long was called to take part in the first movements of the Revolution.

All hopes of a reconciliation with Great Britain seemed now at an end. A General Congress of Deputies from the several colonies had been summoned for the consideration of public affairs. The

Assembly of New York having refused to make any arrangements for sending delegates to the Congress, it was determined that they should be chosen by a Provincial Convention composed of members from the different counties.

Kings, on Long Island, in furtherance of this object, held its meeting on the 15th of April, 1775, at the County House, at Flatbush. David Clarkson, John Vanderbilt, and others, were present, as deputies from that town. Other towns were also represented, and after the required number of delegates were elected, the meeting adjourned.

The Provincial Convention assembled at the Exchange, in this city, on the 20th of the same month, and appointed several deputies to the Continental Congress, which was to convene at Philadelphia in the ensuing month. Three days subsequently New York was thrown into the wildest excitement in consequence of the news of the battle of Lexington. The British troops, after a night's march from Boston, had forced their way through Lexington, into Concord, and destroyed the army stores and munitions of war. But the work of destruction was followed by a sudden attack of the infuriated colonists, and the soldiers were pursued

out of the town, leaving many^o of their comrades dead in the streets. The excellent behavior of the New England yeomanry on that occasion, inspired the Americans everywhere with fresh ardor.

Even before the tragedy which had taken place at Lexington and Concord, the people of the colonies had been thrilled by the soul stirring words of Patrick Henry: "Give me liberty or give me death," which had been delivered with powerful effect in a speech in the Assembly at Richmond.

It now became necessary to organize a Provisional Government for the city, which should have the absolute control of municipal affairs until other arrangements were made by the Continental Congress. Accordingly, a meeting of citizens for this purpose was called for the 5th of May, at the Coffee House, at which a Committee of One Hundred was chosen, who at once assumed the duties imposed upon them. Of this number was David Clarkson, who on the same day, was elected with twenty others to represent New York in a Provincial Congress, which was to assemble on the 22d of May.

Some of the most prominent men of the Colony were members of this body. Among the number were Alexander McDougall, Nathaniel Woodhull,

Richard Montgomery, James Clinton, and James Van Cortlandt, all of whom subsequently served as generals in the army. The names of some of the other deputies were: Gouverneur Morris, John Sloss Hobart, John Morin Scott, John Van Cortlandt, James Beekman, John de Lancey, Richard Yates and Abraham Walton.

The delegates elected met at the Exchange, and organized by the appointment of Peter Van Brugh Livingston as President. The first business before the House was a resolution moved by Mr. Low and seconded by Mr. Gouverneur Morris:

“Resolved, as the opinion of this Congress, That implicit obedience ought to be paid to every recommendation of the Continental Congress, for the general regulation of the associated Colonies, but, that this Congress is competent to, and ought freely to deliberate and determine on all matters relating to the internal policy of this Colony.”

Debates arising thereon, Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Clarkson, moved the previous question, whether the question on Mr. Low's motion should now be put, and it was carried.

Upon the same day, a copy of a recommendation and directions from the Continental Congress, signed

by their Secretary, was read, which conveyed the intelligence that there was great danger that the military stores and cannon at Ticonderoga, lately taken possession of by some of the residents of the vicinity, might fall into the hands of the British and be used to effect an incursion into the Province, and desired that the said stores and cannon might be removed.

A resolution complying with the directions of the Continental Congress having been passed, a committee of eleven members was appointed, with Clarkson as its chairman, to consider the best methods for carrying it into effect.

He received immediately afterward a similar appointment, which he seems to have held while the subject of the stores at Ticonderoga and Crown Point was engaging the attention of the House. Subsequently he served on the Committee on Correspondence.

The members of the Provincial Congress, on the motion of Clarkson, now subscribed to the "American Association," in which, after declaring their conviction of the necessity of union, they resolved "in the most solemn manner, never to become slaves, and to associate, under all the ties of

religion, honor, and love to their country, to adopt and endeavor to carry into execution, whatever measures may be recommended by the Continental Congress, or resolved upon by this Provincial Congress, for the purpose of preserving their constitution and opposing the execution of the several arbitrary and oppressive acts of the British Parliament, until a reconciliation between Great Britain and America, on constitutional principles, which is most ardently desired, can be obtained."

At the same time that Clarkson was thus actively engaged in the Congress, he offered to guarantee, in company with Lispenard and McDougall, all advances of money made to the Colony to the extent of fifteen hundred pounds, to meet the present exigencies.

The Continental Congress had assembled in Carpenter's Hall, at Philadelphia, on the 10th of May, and on the 16th of June, unanimously elected George Washington, "General and Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the United Colonies." News of this appointment reached New York four days later, and on the 25th, eight days after the battle of Bunker Hill, Washington himself, on his way to Cambridge, arrived in the city, where he was

met by a Committee of the Provincial Congress, and received from its President a congratulatory address. Clarkson, as a member of the House, was present on the occasion.

"Confiding in you, sir," said the Speaker, "and in the worthy generals under your command, we have the most flattering hopes of success in the glorious struggle for American liberty, and the fullest assurances that whenever this important contest shall be decided by, that fondest wish of every American soul, an accommodation with our mother country, you will cheerfully resign the important deposit committed into your hands, and resume the character of our worthiest citizen."

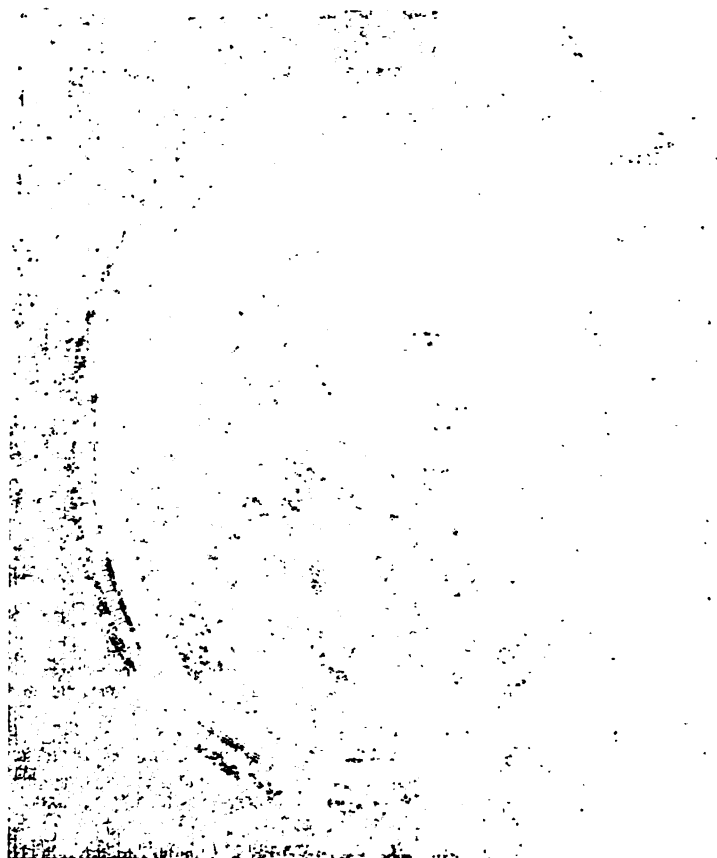
Mr. Clarkson's public life closed on the 4th of November, 1775, with the final adjournment of the Congress. He was now in his fiftieth year. The enthusiasm of youth had long since passed and he could watch the progress of affairs without permitting himself to be inspired with the hope of an easy settlement of the pending troubles, or dazzled with the brilliancy of coveted victories. Strenuous as he had been to defeat the sordid selfishness of the Royal ministry, he had yet a conscientious sense of the allegiance which was due to his Sovereign, and

he was by nature utterly opposed to war when it could be honorably avoided. The change which the hurrying course of events was effecting, must have been exceedingly painful to him. It had become more apparent every day that nothing but a resort to arms would secure to the Colonists the rights which he believed to be theirs; and sacrificing early habits and associations, the friendships of old and valued acquaintances and relatives, he zealously espoused the popular cause.

Hitherto, he had made advances to the State and had subscribed £100 for the defence of the city; now, he arms two of his older sons, David and Matthew, the former twenty-four years of age, the latter not yet seventeen, and sends them away to fight in the battles of their country.

In the autumn of 1775, he was offered the command of a regiment, but his total ignorance of military tactics, and perhaps the assurance that if he refused, it would be given to as true a patriot, induced Clarkson to decline it, and John Jay was appointed in his place. He remained in the regiment, however, but a little while, as his services were more needed in the councils of the nation.

It is pleasant now to turn from these scenes of



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mediate strategy engaged to war who could scarcely be so completely avoided. The change which the progress of events was effecting, notwithstanding its being exceedingly painful to him. It had become necessary on every day that nothing but arms and accoutrements would suffice to the Colonists, the regular habits and associations, the friendships of old and valuable acquaintances and relatives, he zealously espoused the popular cause.

Hitherto, he had made advances to the State and had subscribed £100 for the defence of the city; now, he arms two of his older sons, Paul and Matthew, the former twenty-four years of age, the latter not yet seventeen, and sends them to fight in the battles of their country.

In the autumn of 1775, he was ordered to command the regiment, but his total ignorance of military tactics, and perhaps the assurance that no counsel would be given to him, induced him to decline it, and his son was appointed in his place. He remained in the regiment, however, but a little while, as his services were no longer needed in the command of the regiment.

It is pleasant now to turn to these scenes.



JOHN JAY

agitation and excitement and witness the quiet which prevailed in the old homestead at Flatbush.

The following letter is written by Clarkson to his wife, and is the only one we shall have the opportunity of introducing into these pages :

“Tuesday, a. m. 1775

“Dear Bess:

“ . . . I am as well as can be expected without you. I live in hopes to see you either to-morrow or next day. You will bring with you whatever letters or papers may have been sent to me.

“I have done a vast deal in the garden, planted all my cauliflowers and cabbages, from the hot beds, sowed a large block of peas, and planted different kinds of salad.

“I had Domine Van Zindered last night, by invitation and I loaded him with every good thing I had, on account of his misfortune.

“I am, my dear Bess, your most affectionate and loving husband. Take care of yourself.

“DAVID CLARKSON.”

The ensuing winter and spring were very dull,

business being generally suspended. Those who had been engaged in trade had met with serious reverses during the past few years, and to add to the other troubles which they experienced, it was now impossible for them to collect their debts. Not only were business obligations ignored, but even loans made in the confidence of friendship remained unpaid. In this latter way Clarkson suffered very heavy losses. His energetic letters, calling for even a portion of the interest due him, were unanswered, and there was no means of enforcing payment.

Affairs changed still more for the worse with the advance of the new year. After the evacuation of Boston, Washington, apprehensive of an attack on New York, hastened thither with the main body of his army, and arrived on the 14th of April.

Hitherto the war had been carried on with the avowed wish of obtaining a redress of grievances. The utmost horror had been expressed of attempting independence, and everywhere was exhibited the most anxious desire to maintain the former friendly relations between the home government and the colonies. Having imbibed from education strong

prejudices in favor of the British Constitution, the Colonists wished only to enjoy its substantial benefits. These feelings, however, were rapidly giving way before the growing necessity of adopting republican principles. Many essays appeared in advocacy of these principles, among others a widely read and influential pamphlet over the signature of "Common Sense," written by Thomas Paine, an Englishman, who had lately come to America.

American independence now became the more general theme of conversation and more and more the aspiration of the people. This desire was still further increased when it was known that they were declared to be in a state of rebellion, and that not only foreign mercenaries but Indian allies were to be employed against them, if necessary.

On the 7th of June the subject was introduced into Congress by Richard Henry Lee, who offered a resolution declaring that, "the United Colonies are, and ought to be, free and independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that their political connection with Great Britain is and ought to be totally dissolved."

A spirited debate followed, and the further consid-

eration of the subject was postponed until the first of the following month. In the meantime a committee had reported a Declaration of Independence, which, on the 4th of July, 1776, was unanimously adopted.

On the 10th of the same month the news reached New York. Though there was here a strong and active party in favor of the popular cause, yet in no part of the country were the royalists more numerous or more influential. The joy attending the receipt of this proclamation in the metropolis was therefore far from being general. While those who were in sympathy with the movement rushed to the City Hall and destroyed the portrait of the King, at the same time overturning his statue in the Bowling Green, others, particularly the wealthier inhabitants, looked on with distrust, and the Episcopal clergy expressed their dissatisfaction by closing their churches.

Everything now seemed to indicate that New York was soon to be the scene of warlike operations. General Howe had arrived at Sandy Hook, and was joined a little later by his brother, from England. A large portion of those who were able to go left the city. Mr. Clarkson had wisely taken the precaution

to remove his family to Brunswick, New Jersey, where in terrible anxiety he awaited the development of events.

On the 22d of August, the whole British force was put in motion. Ten thousand men were landed near the villages of New Utrecht and Gravesend, and in three divisions marched to the attack of the American camp at Brooklyn.

The Hessian troops, under the command of General de Heister, were sent forward to Flatbush, and on the first or second evening after their arrival, became engaged in a drunken revel. They had encamped, says a local historian, in a diagonal direction across the village. Their tents extended from the little lane over the farms of Hendrick Vanderveer and J. C. Bergen, in a north-easterly line towards the road leading to New Lots. The drunken Hessians amused themselves in rifling the houses, and were soon directed to the residence of David Clarkson, since occupied by the family of the above named Mr. Bergen. Clarkson was a strong Whig, and after the troops had vented their spite at him and his principles by destroying his furniture and abusing his premises in a shameful manner, their attention was called, under direction of

their guide, to his wines. These were very choice, the greater part of them having been specially imported. The entire stock had been bottled and stored away in an upper apartment, in the wing of his house, and a partition had been built up to conceal them. The guide was friendly to the British cause, and being acquainted with these facts, informed the troops, and actually assisted them on the occasion. The wines and liquors were of course procured, and the officers and men indulged freely in the use of them. The back piazza and yard of the house exhibited a complete drunken frolic. As the same chronicler says, had the Americans been aware of the situation of their foes at this time, a very serious check might have been put to their advance, and perhaps their whole plan might have been subverted.

Fortunately, though the house and furniture suffered much damage, a large amount of silver plate, buried on the premises, was not discovered. A trusty slave, named Cæsar, had found a secure place of deposit for it, and his integrity thus preserved for the later generations of the family treasures of no little value. The house was subsequently occupied

by the enemy as a hospital, being selected for that purpose probably on account of its large dimensions.

The unfortunate issue of the Long Island campaign is well known. The Jamaica turnpike, carelessly left unguarded, gave New York, on the 15th of September, into the hands of the Royalists until the close of the war.

Scarcely could Clarkson have heard of the calamity at Flatbush when he received the painful intelligence of the terrible conflagration of the 21st of September, which destroyed a large portion of the city. His own residence, with all its contents, portraits and ancient relics, was included in the general ruin. The fire commenced late at night in a small wooden house on the wharf near Whitehall slip, and the panic among the inhabitants, caused by the capture of the town, prevented any adequate efforts either to extinguish the flames or to check their progress. The wind was blowing from the southwest, and the whole space between Whitehall and Broad streets, as far up as Beaver street, was rapidly desolated. At two in the morning the wind changed to southeast, and the fire reached Broadway. Extending, then, up that

street, it crossed to Beaver lane (now Morris street), burning all the houses on both sides to Rector street. Even Trinity did not escape; its high-peaked wooden roof could not be protected, and the whole edifice was consumed. The work of destruction was continued until finally checked by the College grounds. Five hundred houses, comprising the best portion of the city, had been laid waste.

From the greatest affluence and ease in monetary affairs, Clarkson was thus suddenly reduced to comparative poverty. It is true he had still quite a number of houses from which he might have derived a tolerable revenue, but, as he had espoused the cause of the Colonists, his real estate was seized, and he was kept out of his income till nearly the end of the war.

He appears to have remained at Brunswick until the spring of 1777. Among his guests were his wife's sister, the widow Van Horne, and her five daughters, and at one time Mrs. Graydon, whose son, in his memoirs, gives the following account of his mother's visit there:

“They reached the hospitable mansion of Mr. Van

Horne at Bound Brook, New Jersey, on the evening of the day they set out. It fortunately turned out, that he had been acquainted with my father, Graydon, and having connections in Brunswick, he furnished my mother with a letter of introduction extremely useful to her, on her arrival there. She arrived at Brunswick, where learning the headquarters of the general, her first care was to deliver the letter of Mr. Van Horne. She readily found the house of the person to whom it was addressed, (I think Mr. Clarkson) was invited in, and seated in the parlor. There soon after came in two or three British officers, who entering into conversation with the ease of men of fashion, gave her to understand, that there had been a ball the previous night, at which had been the Misses Van Horne, the ladies whom they now called to see. These gentlemen, one of whom was Sir John Wrottesley, were such frequent visitors at this house, that my mother, during her stay in it, became pretty well acquainted with them, as I found, upon her once meeting Sir John with Miss Susan Van Horne, in the streets of Flatbush. Accosting her in a very sociable manner, he adverted to the pleasure of her finding me, who had then the honor of being introduced to him; and

less, I cannot say, British Baronet though he was, since his demeanor was truly gentlemanly and worthy of his rank. By the same means, she had also the opportunity of often seeing Colonel, Count Donop, a Major Hendricks, and a Major Pauli, all of the German troop.

“There were five of the Miss Van Hornes, all handsome and well bred, who not long after with their mother, a widow lady, removed from this place to Flatbush.¹ A Mr. Clarkson, who was a connection of theirs; if I mistake not, their uncle by marriage, and the very gentleman, at whose house they stay’d at Brunswick, and at which, my mother was so hospitably entertained, had a house also at Flatbush. Being a whig, he had left it on the approach of the enemy; and it had been a good deal injured by the Germans. He was now permitted to return to it; and Mrs. Van Horne and her daughters came along with him. Perhaps the way to this measure, was smoothed by the interest of the officers already mentioned; for ladies often are the means of mitigating the ferocities of war.

¹ Mrs. Van Horne had a house at Flatbush on the northeast corner of Little-lane and the turnpike. The place has since been occupied by the Duryeas.

“Mrs. Graydon, after they came to Flatbush, gave one or two tea-drinkings, at which the rebel clan that attended them, were honored with the company of some of the Misses Van Horne, avowed Whigs, notwithstanding their civility to the British officers.”

Owing possibly to the intervention of these gentlemen, as suggested by Mr. Graydon, or to the good offices of some old friends who had espoused the Royal cause, Mr. Clarkson was now permitted to return to the island. Before removing from New Jersey, he left “his chariot, four-wheeled chaise, chair and sulky” at John Dows at Raritan.

The kindly greeting of Mr. Cowenhoven, which Clarkson encountered on his arrival, must have been very gratifying to him. It was an assurance of welcome to his old home and to old friendships.

“Nicholas Cowenhoven’s compliments to Mr. D. Clarkson, and congratulates Mr. Clarkson and family on their arrival in Kings Co. in these unhappy times, and hereby acquaints Mr. Clarkson that Mr. Cowen-

hoven's wagon and horses is at Mr. Clarkson's service to help him with his family to his seat at Flatbush, and will be glad if Mr. and Mrs. Clarkson or any of the family will come with the bearer and stay with Mr. Cowenhoven until they are better provided for.

"March 9. 1777."

The news of his misfortunes had already reached his aunt in Holland, and soon after his return to Long Island, he receives from her the following letter. The original is in Dutch:

"Voorburg, Aug. 28. 1777

"My dear Nephew:

"I duly received your favor of April 22d, and was sorry to hear of your heavy loss by the fire of September last, but, on the other hand, I am glad that you do not act like the dog who bites at the cane, but that you look up to Him, who strikes. Nothing happens without the will of Providence, who has reasons for everything, and if each adversity brought us nearer to the Lord, we would have no reason to complain of this short life, for the holy eternity is endless. Would that we were all enabled

through His grace to esteem adversities and troubles as a means of participating in the great goodness of the Lord Christ.

"I wish that you had time and opportunity to write me more fully the hopes of peace, as, you must understand, I am not indifferent at seeing my native country and relations in such afflicting circumstances.

"I am through the Lord's goodness in tolerable health for my advanced years, but very feeble.

" . . . I have nothing to add but my wishes that the good God will overwhelm you and your family with the best blessings both in this world and in eternity. My respects to your wife and children.

"I remain, with esteem, my dear nephew, your devoted and affectionate aunt,

"ANNA CLARKSON.

"To Mr. David Clarkson

"at New York."

On the 8th of January, 1779, Mr. Clarkson received intelligence from the Hague, of the death of his aunt, in her 78th year, on the 19th of August, little less than twelve months after the above letter

was written. She was the last of the children of the Secretary. Her remains were placed with those of her brother under the high choir of the church at Voorburg, beneath the great window.



Her country seat in the vicinity, known as "Sion's Lust," was subsequently sold by her executor, Mr. Gerard Scheurleer, of the Hague, for 7,490 guilders. He was also requested by the

American heirs to take the custody of four family pictures left by the deceased.

Mr. Streatfeild, upon hearing of his friend's reverses, at once offered him assistance, but finding that Clarkson did not avail himself of it, Streatfeild wrote again, and from his letter we make this extract :

“Observe you are very tender in drawing on me but, should your situation require it, or, that it would, in any way, assist you or your family, I request you to do the same without making the least apology.”

The next letter expresses Clarkson's gratitude :

“Flatbush, Jan. 20, 1779.

“My dear good friend :

“I should have wrote you long before now, but a variety of circumstances prevented me, such as lowness of spirits, occasioned by so many losses and disappointments, together with not knowing when an opportunity offered, as I seldom go to New York, unless upon very urgent business, and am never better satisfied than when I leave it behind me, having not so much as a house to go to, nor any manner of convenience to do any business in. My

misfortunes I feel more sensibly, as I have during the whole course of my life been a perfect stranger to affliction, however, adorable Providence knows what is best, to whose unerring wisdom I am perfectly resigned and very thankful that I am able to support my family and keep them together, as I have hitherto done, though, I must say, sometimes with great difficulty, as all the necessities of life are so exceedingly high.

"I am most extremely obliged to you my dear good friend for your kind and generous offer in directing me to draw upon you for £100. sterling.

"My small stock of money I procured by exchanging New York paper at forty per cent discount. I have still sufficient left and shall endeavor to exchange more at the same rate, or at a greater loss, but at present I can't learn of any one who will meddle with it at any rate.

"The ease it is to my mind, that I have such a friend as you, to go to in distress, is truly great, and I want words to express my gratitude, and am as much obliged to you, as, if I had really drawn upon you, though I shall do all I can without it. . . .

"D. CLARKSON."

New York now presented a sad picture. No visible attempts had been made since the fire to remove the ruins, and as the edifices destroyed were chiefly of brick, the skeletons of the remaining walls cast their grim shadows upon the pavements, imparting an unearthly aspect to the streets. The semi-circular front of old Trinity, says Mr. Duer, still reared its ghastly head and seemed to deepen while it hallowed the solitude of the surrounding graves. Turning into Wall street, writes the same author, we seemed at last to have entered a city of the living. There was the old Presbyterian church, not that which lately crossed the ferry to Jersey City, but its rough-hewn predecessor, in which Whitfield had once poured forth the torrent of his eloquence. There it stood in solitary gloom,—a quiet to which the present turmoil at the same spot affords the strongest contrast. Next, at the head of Broad street, was the City Hall, in its primitive nakedness, and beyond, at the intersection of the present William street, erect upon its pedestal, was the statue of the elder Pitt, mutilated and defaced in resentment of his speech against the acknowledgement of American Independence.

Amid all this desolation and misery it can be no matter of astonishment that Clarkson cared so little to visit the city, or when compelled to go there, left it with so much satisfaction. His circumstances were now more straitened, perhaps, than at any other time during the war. The expenses of living were constantly increasing, and the paper money, which had become almost the only medium of exchange, had well-nigh ceased to have any value. His town property yielded, of course, little or nothing. A storehouse and stable, which he owned, next to the Battery, and nearly opposite to his late dwelling, had been in the possession of Captain Ford, of the Royal Artillery, ever since the capture of the city, and an application was made to Colonel Beverly Robinson, who had espoused the cause of the Royalists, to obtain some rent for it, but with what success is not known.

Brighter prospects, however, encouraged the Colonists before the close of the year 1781, and the splendid victory gained at Yorktown on the 19th of October virtually closed the war. Despair everywhere gave place to rejoicing, and the 13th of December was set apart as a day of general thanksgiving.

The story of the surrender is referred to in the following letter :

“At Sir John Whiteford’s, Bart.

“50 Pall Mall.

“Dear Sir:

“I dare say you were not a little astonished at the suddenness of my departure from your once happy country. . . . I arrived at Plymouth on the twenty-fifth day and can assure you, had a most delightful passage. The most disagreeable part of the story was the unfortunate one we had to salute our people with, a greater part of whom were in some measure prepared for the event by the preceding packet. The Parliament opened the day after we got to London.

“The Commons, Peers and Nation have been debating ever since. Some are for prosecuting the war in America, but the general voice is against it; however, it will be finally determined at the close of this week.

“I have been asked by the great people my opinion upon the subject, in which I was not very reserved, but answered with the multitude. Peace is signed with Holland and some pleasing matters of

importance are negotiating with Russia, therefore I think, if we let you alone, we can give a better account of our neighbors. We may all be friends again. Adieu to politics.

"I am now in London, living in the west end of the town, and enjoying the amusements it affords.

. . . But, I would rather wish it were summer, as you are not a stranger to my partiality for a rustic life. Your delightful village afforded me many happy hours. . . . I very often think of the agreeable jaunts we had within the circuit of your dominions. . . . The sky blue Arabian, from his beautiful color and figure, would be much noticed in this part of the world. . . .

"I hope Peggy will be provided with a good husband before I return. I mean to get a wife at home since I could not get one abroad. By the next letter I shall be able to tell you who she is. . . .

"Love to Peggy, respects to Mrs. C. Remember me kindly to all the ladies.

"JOHN ROUSSELET.

"Mr. David Clarkson."

The expectation, which had been formed of the results likely to issue from the victory at Yorktown, was not to be disappointed. No sooner had the news of the surrender of Cornwallis reached the mother country, than conciliatory measures almost immediately followed, and as early as the beginning of August, 1782, intelligence was received that negotiations for a general peace had been already commenced at Paris.

It may easily be conceived, says Hardie, that this news was highly gratifying to every real friend of his country; but, when it became known to the loyalists, a scene of terror and dismay prevailed through the city. To them the arrival of death-warrants could scarcely have afforded more serious cause of alarm. Those in the army tore the lappels from their coats, stamped them under their feet, and exclaimed that they were ruined forever. Others cried out, that after sacrificing everything to prove their loyalty, they were now left to shift for themselves, having lost the friendship of both King and country.

To Clarkson the tidings of peace must have been particularly welcome, but his life was drawing to a close. The many trials to which he had been sub-

jected, and especially the painful anxiety caused by the continued absence of one of his sons in the army, and the enforced separation from another, were having their effect upon his health. The younger children who grew up during the era of the Revolution could well remember how frequently, on his return to Flatbush from the city, he would relate that such an one, an old friend, had passed him without the slightest recognition, and even with studiously averted face, and how others had crossed the street to avoid a salutation. Such conduct in most minds would have excited only a feeling of contempt, but to Clarkson, with his highly nervous organization, it was more a matter of regret and pain. Conscious of the rectitude of his motives, and convinced that resistance to usurped authority was not only a right, but a duty, he sorrowfully felt that those whom he esteemed and respected, those whom early associations and kindred joys and sorrows had endeared to him, were now forever alienated, and that they regarded him with distrust and suspicion.

For some time the family had become greatly alarmed about him. Gradually, but surely, day by day, without any rapid progress, though with no

intervals of recovery, and yet without any well-defined disease, it was evident his strength was giving way.

Observing the altered appearance of his face, as it was reflected in a mirror, he alluded to it as the seal of death, with calmness and even with joy, and when the summons came he bade farewell to his family, and passed from earth, "with a cheerfulness and resignation that only the consciousness of a well-spent life could inspire."

His death occurred on the 14th of November, 1782. His widow died in the summer of 1808. She had survived her husband nearly twenty-six years, and was buried by his side in the cemetery of the Dutch Church at Flatbush.

Mr. Levinus Clarkson outlived all his brothers. In 1772, encouraged by the recommendation of friends, he had established himself in South Carolina as a "factor" or commission merchant, but, disappointed in promises of business and discouraged by the general depression of trade, he returned after an absence of about three years. He had met with great civility at Charleston, and had formed there many pleasant acquaintances. Mr. and Mrs. Ben-

jamin Huger were among the number of his friends, and in introducing them to his brother David, on the occasion of a visit which they were about making to New York, Levinus, in his letter, says: "Any services you can render these good people will be an acknowledgement of the attentions they have shown me."

He had been admitted a member of the New York Chamber of Commerce on the 3d of May, 1768, the year of its organization as a society. He died at Jamaica, Long Island, on the 24th of May, 1798, in the 57th year of his age, and was buried near his brother in the Flatbush churchyard.

Levinus had eight children, five sons and three daughters, Samuel, David, Charles, Kemble, Mary, Henrietta, Cornelia and William. Of all these, Charles and Henrietta alone left issue:

Charles, married Elizabeth, daughter of John Vanderbilt and sister of Catherine, wife of Nicholas R. Cowenhoven, and is now represented by the children of his daughter, Catherine Elizabeth, second cousin and wife of Matthew Clarkson, of Flatbush. Mr. Vanderbilt was "a man of great nobleness of

mind, of liberal views and of enlarged public spirit." His monumental stone bears the following testimony to his worth: "He was a merchant of distinguished probity, a real patriot, an affectionate relative, a sincere friend, and a worthy man. Blessed with affluence, he displayed a spirit of munificence in promoting the interests of his country, of religion and virtue. The moderation and conciliatory disposition which accompanied and conducted his virtues, secured him through life, an esteem almost unrivalled, and rendered his death a great loss to the public, and to his family irreparable." He died on the 18th of November, 1796, in the 57th year of his age.

Henrietta married her first cousin, Freeman Clarkson, and is represented by the descendants of her son, William Kemble Clarkson.

Soon after the death of Mr. David Clarkson's widow, a monument was placed over their remains. This memorial of affection consists of a block of white marble resting on a stone base and supporting

a sculptured urn. The structure is about eight feet in height and is enclosed with an iron railing.

The inscription reads as follows :

TO . THE . MEMORY . OF
 DAVID . CLARKSON
 AND . HIS . WIDOW
 ELIZABETH . CLARKSON.
 THE . FORMER . WHO . DIED
 ON . THE . 14TH . NOVEMBER . 1782
 IN . THE . 57TH . YEAR . OF . HIS . AGE
 AND . THE . LATTER
 ON . THE . 14TH . JUNE . 1808
 IN . THE . 84TH . YEAR . OF . HER . AGE.
 AND . ALSO . IN . MEMORY . OF
 LEVINUS . CLARKSON
 BROTHER . OF . DAVID . CLARKSON
 WHO . DIED
 ON . THE . 24TH . MAY . 1798
 IN . THE . 57TH . YEAR . OF . HIS . AGE.

Mr. David Clarkson had eight children, seven sons and one daughter.

David was born July 30, 1750, and died in infancy.

David was born November 15, 1751; married Jane Mettick, and died June 27, 1825.

Philip was born April 4, 1754, and died in infancy.

Freeman was born February 23, 1756; married Henrietta Clarkson, and died November 14, 1810.

Matthew was born October 17, 1758; married,
1. Mary Rutherford, May 24, 1785; 2. Sarah Cornell, February 14, 1792, and died April 25, 1825.

Ann Margaret was born February 3, 1761; married Garrit Van Horne, November 16, 1784, and died November 2, 1824.

Thomas Streatfeild was born April 5, 1763; married Elizabeth Van Horne, October 30, 1790, and died June 8, 1844.

Levinus was born March 31, 1765; married Ann Mary Van Horne, February 25, 1797, and died September 28, 1845.



APPENDICES.

APPENDIX A.

THE FAMILY OF DE PEYSTER.

The de Peysters were of Huguenot origin. Johannes, the ancestor of the family in this country, was born at Haarlem, Holland, in the early part of the seventeenth century.

After making a visit to America he returned to Europe, and in his native town married, on the 17th of December, 1651, Cornelia Lubberts. Two years later he was again in New Amsterdam, and finally established himself there in trade. He is said to have been possessed, by inheritance, of considerable wealth. Several pictures, costly articles of furniture, and massive pieces of plate, which he brought with him from Holland, are still preserved by his descendants. He held many offices of trust and honor under Dutch and English Colonial rule, and

took a prominent part in public affairs. He was, at different times, Schepen, Alderman, Burgomaster, Deputy-Mayor, and on the 15th of October, 1677, he received the appointment of Mayor, but this latter office was declined in consequence of his imperfect knowledge of the English language. He died previous to 1686, after a long life of activity and usefulness. His widow survived him many years. He had issue, seven sons and two daughters. Of these several children, two only will be noticed in this article.

Abraham, one of the sons of Johannes de Peyster and Cornelia Lubberts, was born on the 8th of July, 1657, and married at Amsterdam, on the 5th of April, 1684, Catharina de Peyster. On the 13th of the following September he returned to New York, where he held successively the offices of Alderman, of Mayor of the city, of a Judge of the Supreme Court, of Treasurer of New Jersey and New York, and was for a time the acting Governor of the latter Province, having for many years been a member of the King's Council. He died in August, 1728, aged

71 years. He had issue, eight sons and five daughters.

Abraham, one of the sons of Abraham de Peyster and Catharina de Peyster, was born on the 28th of August, 1696, and married, on the 1st of July, 1722, Margaret, the eldest daughter of Jacobus Van Cortlandt (son of Hon. Oloff Stevens Van Cortlandt and Annetje Lockermans) and Eva Philipse.¹ Abraham was made Treasurer of the Province of New York on the 2d of June, 1721, and remained in office until his death, which occurred on the 17th of September, 1767, aged 71 years. He had issue, five sons and six daughters. One of his children, James, who married Sarah, a daughter of the Hon. Joseph Reade, was the grandfather of the late James F. de Peyster, and another child, Elizabeth, married Matthew Clarkson, and is now represented by the descendants of her grandchildren, John Charlton Clarkson, and Maria Charlton, wife of John L. Holthuysen.

Johannes, another son of Johannes de Peyster

and Cornelia Lubberts, was born on the 21st of September, 1666, and married on the 10th of October, 1688, Anna Bancker, eldest daughter of Garret Bancker and Elizabeth Dircks. Bancker came to Beverwyck about 1656, probably from Amsterdam. Mr. de Peyster was an Assessor of the Dock Ward, an Assistant Alderman of the same, Mayor of New York, and a prominent member of the Provincial Legislature, acting as Chairman of several Committees. About the year 1710, he visited his relatives in Holland. He had issue, seven sons and five daughters. One of his daughters, Cornelia, married Matthew, a son of Matthew Clarkson, Secretary of the Province of New York, by his wife, Catharina Van Schaick, and had issue, who became the ancestors of the Philadelphia branch of the Clarkson family. Cornelia survived her husband Matthew Clarkson, and married Gilbert Tennent.

Extracted from the Pedigree of the de Peyster family, by Maj.-Gen. J. Watts de Peyster, and from Valentine's Manual for 1861, p. 556.

NOTE:—¹ See article, Frederick Philipse, in the "Memoirs of the Long Island Historical Society," vol. 1, p. 362, and de Peyster pedigree, p. 117, and "Potter's American Monthly," vol. 4, p. 332.

APPENDIX B.

SILVER-PLATE.

An Inventory of Silver-plate belonging to the estate of David Clarkson, Jr., with the names of the present owners as far as they have been ascertained.

The division among his children was made as follows :

1. The share of DAVID CLARKSON.

Waiter, large - oz. 48 6, cost, stg. £ 19 5 3

Present owner,

Cruet-stand - oz. 58 18, cost, stg. £ 24 3 7

Present owner, Mr. A. Norrie.

Candlesticks, pair, fluted, inscribed with the name of Margarita Van Schayk (afterwards the wife of the Rev. Bernardus Freeman).

Present owner, Mrs. George Moke.

Salt-cellars, pair,

Present owner, Mrs. Levinus Clarkson.

Mug,

Present owner, Mrs. William B. Clarkson.

2. The share of FREEMAN CLARKSON.

Candlesticks, two pair, oz. 97 6, cost, stg. £ 36 13 10

Present owner,

Snuffer-dish,

Present owner, Mr. Robert L. Clarkson.

Cow, (cream pitcher).

Present owner, Mr. Gordon Norrie.

3. The share of MATTHEW CLARKSON.

Tureen - oz. 148 13, cost, stg. £ 67 16 2

Present owner, Mr. Matthew Clarkson.

Soup-ladle,

Present owner,

4. The share of ANN MARGARET CLARKSON.

Jug with cover,

Present owner, Mrs. George Moke.

Tobacco plates, two.

Present owner, Mr. Gordon Norrie.

Gravy-spoons,

Tea-pot, chased,

Milk-pot,

Chafing-dish,

Present owner, Miss Julia C. Norrie.

Salver, with three feet,

Present owner, Mr. Eugene L. Clarkson.

Sugar basket, small,

Present owner, Mr. David M. Clarkson.

Sangaree Cup, old fashioned, large (stamp 1669),

Present owner, Mr. Matthew Clarkson.

Mug,

Present owner,

5. The share of T. STREATFEILD CLARKSON.

Jug, large, (pitcher) oz. 45 10, cost, stg. £17 12 0

Coffee-pot, - oz. 27 7, cost, stg. 12 1 3

Present owner, Mrs. David Clarkson.

Bread-basket, large,

Tankard,

Pudding-dish,

Sauce-boats, two. - oz. 24 1, cost, stg. £ 10 2 3

Present owners, Mrs. Clermont Livingston, and

Miss Emily V. Clarkson.

Sangaree Cup, small,

Present owner,

6. The share of LEVINUS CLARKSON.

Bowl, small, inscribed, "Margarita Van Schayk,
1689."

Bowl, large, inscribed, T^S_A

Sangaree Mug,

Salt-cellars, pair,

Present owner, Miss Lavinia Clarkson.

Salver, with foot,

Pudding-dish,

Punch-ladle,

Punch-strainer,

Present owner, Mrs. T. Streatfeild Clarkson.

Tankard,

Marrow-spoon,

Present owner, Mr. David L. Clarkson.

Tea-kettle and lamp, oz. 108 3, cost, stg. £ 49 10 4

Present owner, Mrs. Levinus Clarkson.

Tea-pot,

Present owner,

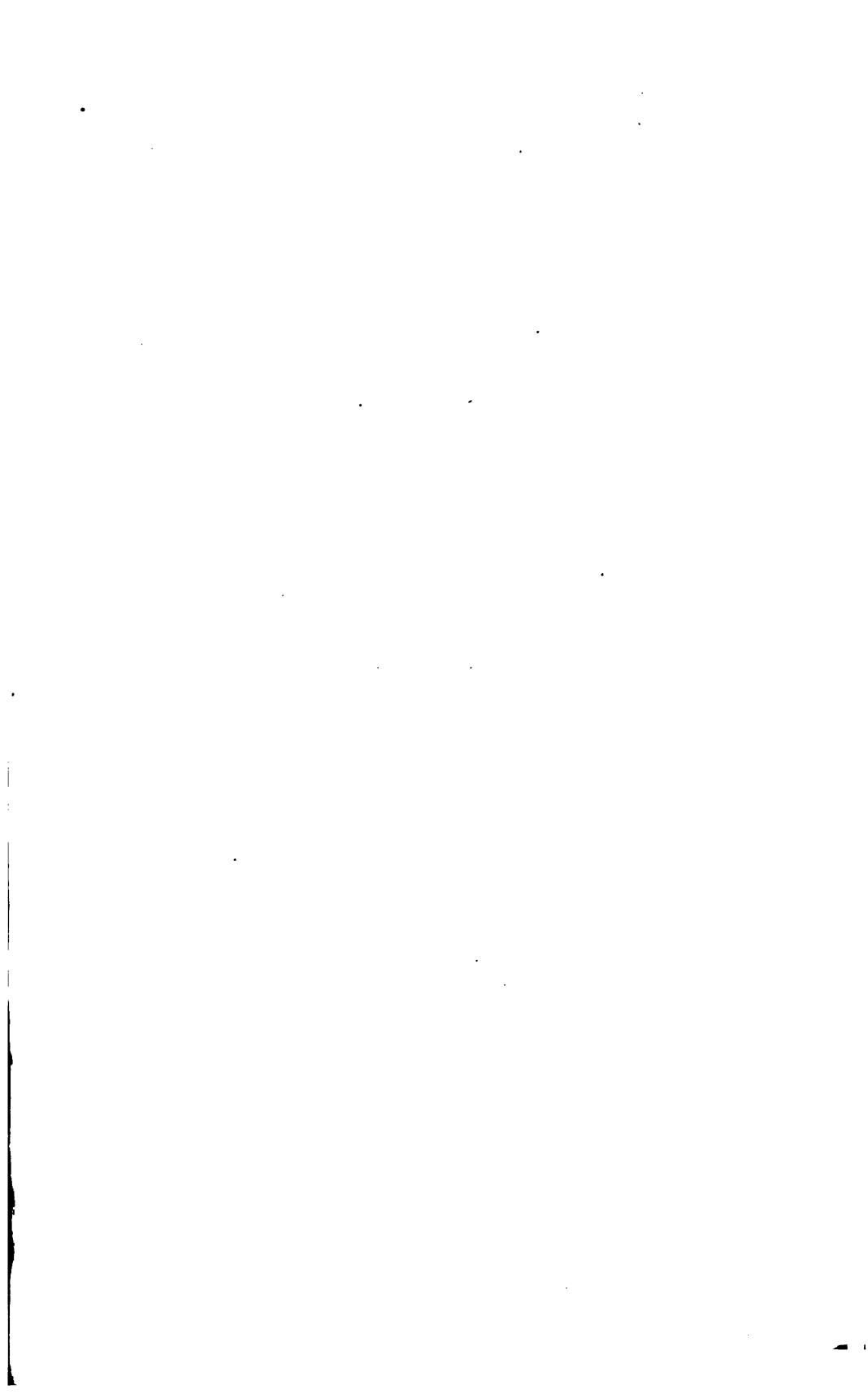
Mug,

Present owner,

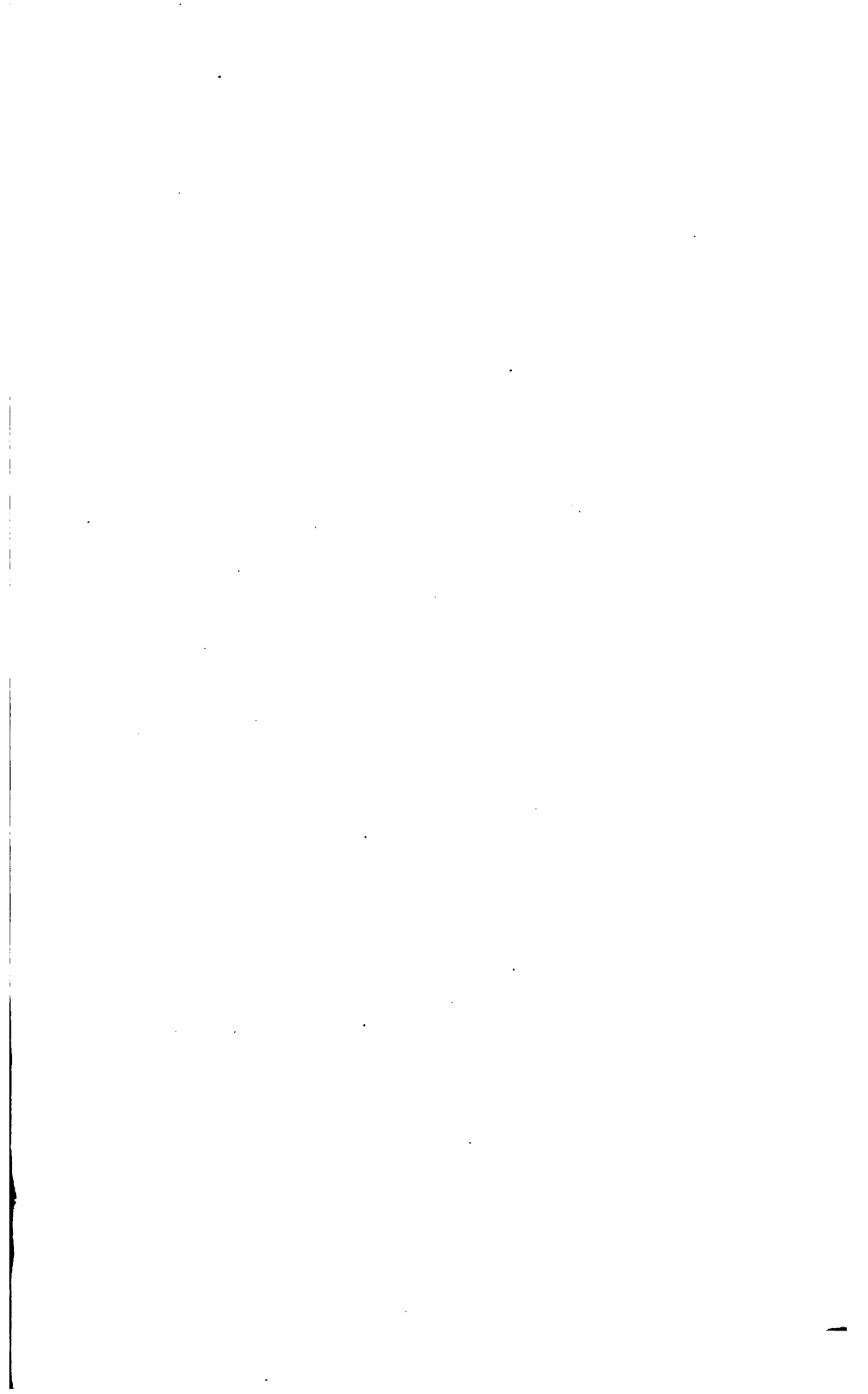
In addition to the foregoing, the list embraced a

Crane or Syphon, the name of the owner of which has not been ascertained ; a round Sugar-pot, engraved with the armorials, now the property of Mrs. David Clarkson ; five dozen Spoons and two dozen Knives and Forks ; a Snuff-box, marked with the initials, " E. F." (Elizabeth French), at present owned by Mr. Frederick Clarkson, to whom also belongs a Fish-knife, which had been made from some of the spoons.

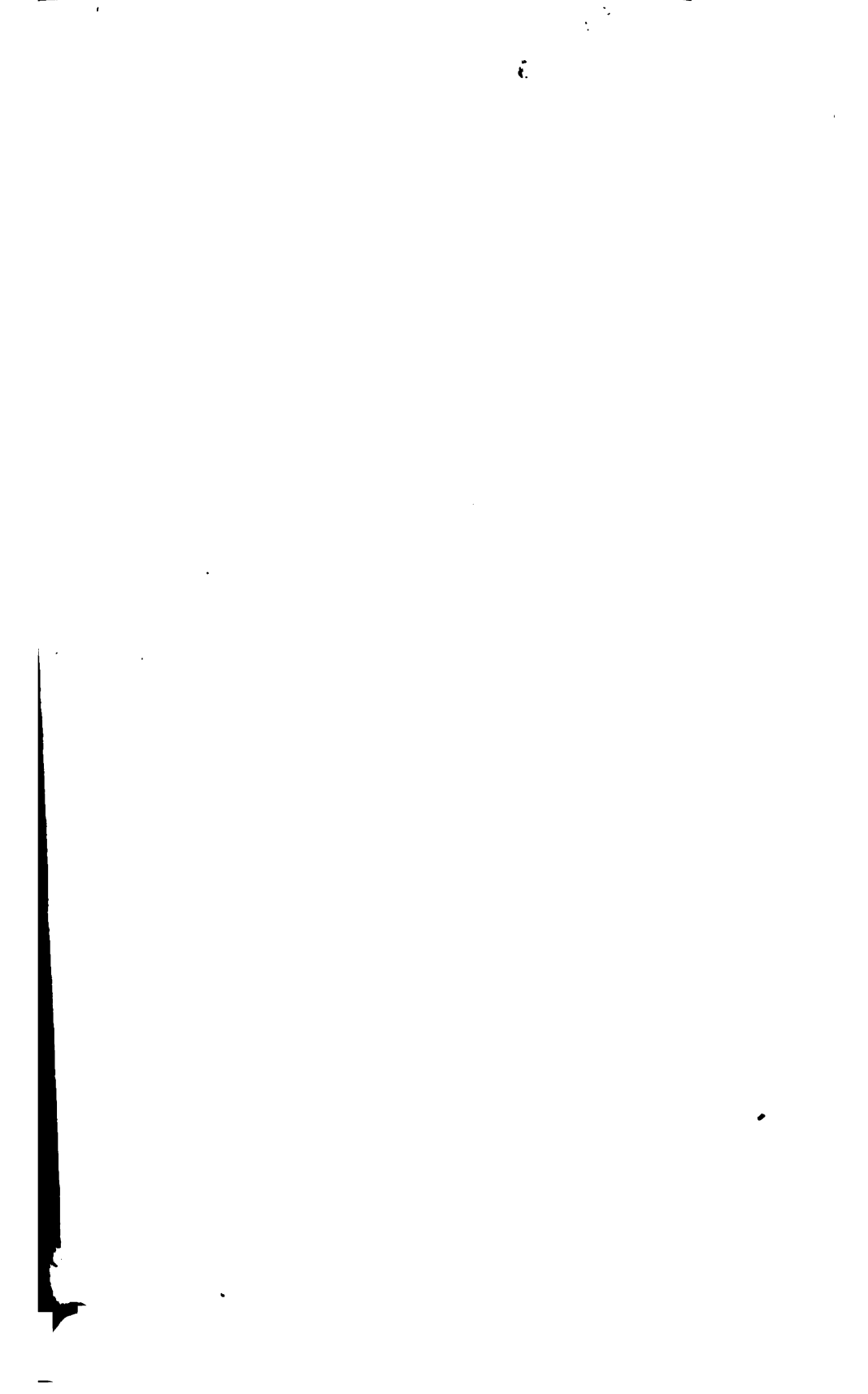
















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